

MONDAY 15 MARCH 1999

No 3,870



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# Bloodshed stains Kosovo talks

THE SMOULDERING ruins of BY EMMA DALY the village of Syrhe marked in Syrhe what was supposed to be Kosovo's last weekend of war, as Serbs and Kosovo Albanians w to Paris for talks that will either end the fighting or mark a new and deadly phase in its acceleration.

But as officials in Belgrade released a thousand white doves as "a symbol of peace", Serbian tanks were ploughing through Svrhe. As they shelled the old stone houses, forcing the inhabitants to run screaming and crying for the hills, it was

AND MARCUS TANNER

hard to imagine diplomats at far-off Rambouillet ending the cycle of bloodshed. "Children were crying, women were weeping and we were running, falling over, and you couldn't hear anything but the constant shooting and shelling," said Ajet Gashi, who returned with me to Svrhe to check on the damage. We found the houses smoking, flames licking the walls where the roofs had start-

ed at 6 o'clock in the morning," an Albanian fighter said. "We were outnumbered."

In the woods a few miles away, Maliq Dobruma waited beside his tractor, the trailer filled to bursting with his wife, eight childree and other relatives.

Farther north, smoke hillowed above the villages of Mijalic and Drvar. Zymer Zeneli showed us his home, where the Serbs had hurled around bedding, papers, clothing and food, thrown an armchair down a

tered and shredded in the garden. "We worked so hard for this and now it's all destroyed." he said But the Zenelis es caped. In towns and cities across Kosovo, hospitals were struggling with the tide of dead

weekend hombings. The death toll from the hiasts rose to seven dead and 58 wounded as doctors struggled to cope with the number of people needing surgery. The explosions hore a sinister re-

and wounded from a series of

ed to collapse. They launched well, and ripped up passports. semblance to the market-place gled remains of a hand and a surprise attack, which start— The family snapshots lay scathlasts that killed dozens and some fingers. maimed many more in Sarajevo in the 1992-95 war between Bosnia's Serbs and Muslims.

> In the northern town of Mitrovica, where four were killed in an explosion in a vegetable market on Saturday, Arsim Suleijmani said: "We saw terrible things: legs, hands, limbs, lots of blood."

Behind the stall where he was selling apples, onions and potatoes when the blast occurred, a trader lifted two wooden boxes to show the man-

As the delegations reached France it seemed only a miracle could save Kosovo from more disasters. While the Alhanians indicated they would sign a US-drafted peace agreement as soon as today, the Yugoslav delegation was under Slobodan Milosevic not even to discuss the proposed deployment of Nato troops - the key component of the proposed deal. The plan would provide Kosovo, where the population follows from Rambouillet. In

is 90 per cent Albanian, with autonomy, backed by a deployment of 28,000 Nato troops.

In London, the Foreign Secretary, Robin Cook, reiterated that Nato remained poised to strike if an agreement is not reached, and warned Mr Milosevic that his government "may have to take the consequences' strict orders from President if it rejected a deal. The feebly worded threat seemed only to . underline the disarray in the ranks of the big powers over what to do next if as seems almost certain, no agreement

hoped the latest bloodshed would concentrate people's minds in France. "We are really hoping for something good in Paris," said Mr Gashi as the burning roof of his home final-

ly fell in with a great crash. In the distance the rebel fighters of the Kosovo Liberation Army could be heard chanting a song that testified to a willingness to fight on: "We can't stand slavery; we're going to win; we will liberate this land." Leading article,

Review, page 3

### Judges 'rob' Lewis of world title

THERE WERE calls for Lennox BY RICHARD WILLIAMS Lewis to be awarded an instant in New York rematch against Evander Holyfield after the fight between the with God and I come out with two world heavyweight cham- God," he said. "Usually the depions at Madison Square Gar- cisions doo't go my way. I had a controversial draw. Lewis, Lord. Lewis really shooe. He who had waited 10 years for his chance to win the undisputed title, will now have to wait a lit- ing. In six mooths, if he wants tle longer to rectify what he and to get it on, let's get it on. It's his camp see as a serious in- no problem with me."

that the British-born fighter fight even, and at Jean had failed to beat Holyfield oo points over 12 rounds. But the dissident minority included one of the three judges, while another felt unable to decide in favour of either man. The split decision left both boxers holding on to their respective titles. hut was received with widespread booing in the hall.

newspaper and television commentators, shared the outrage of the 7,000-strong British contingent. "Robhery!" screamed the front-page headline in the New York Post a few hours later. "Rohbed!" agreed the Daily News. "A heist," suggested the New York Times. C. Lewis started the fight

strongly and held Holyfield at bay during the later stages. "The whole world could see for a rematch and it should be in itself what happened," he said. "This was highway robbery. I call for an automatic rematch next month. But I doubt if he's going to want to fight me again. He looked like an old man in

Holyfield, clearly the more bruised and exhausted of the two, admitted his luck, in his own devout fashion. "I go in

den oo Saturday night ended in a hlessed day today, thank the proved he was tough and that he's good for the game of box-

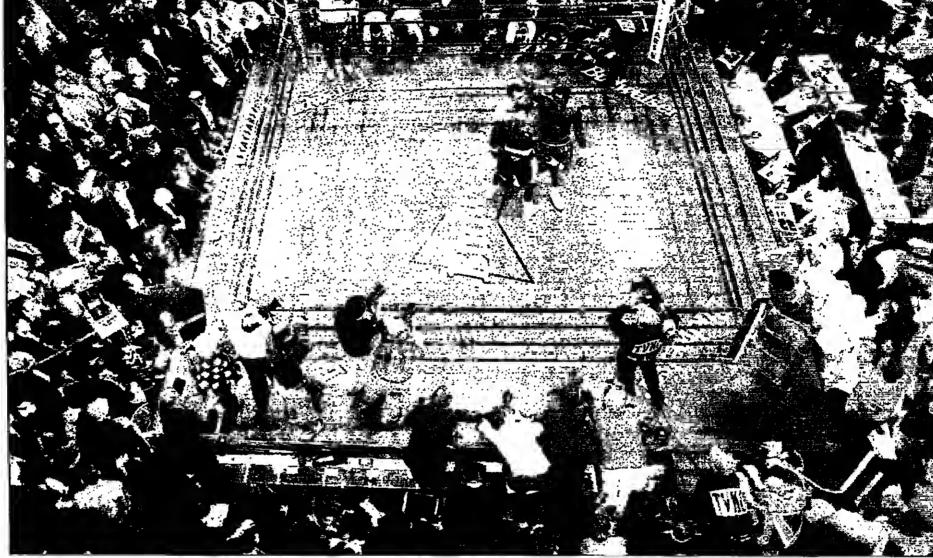
Blame was levelled at the · Not many of the 21,284 peo- British judge, Larry O'Connell. e packing the Garden thought a Kent engraver who scored the Williams, the US judge, who gave the fight to Holyfield. But there were dark mutterings of the sort that teod to accompany any fight promoted by the flamboyant Don King, to whom a Lewis victory would have meant the end of his grip on the heavyweight division.

Among the more predictably Many Americans, including extreme reactions was that of Frank Maloney, Lewis's manager. "If I was Tony Blair," he said, "I'd cut off all diplomatic relations with the United States, It's an absolute con."

Tony Banks, the Sports minister, added: "It was a bad night for boxing. The judging appears to have been hizarre and the result gives rise to the thought that it was more about husiness than sport. We need this country."

Other hoxers were quick to support Lewis. Frank Bruno, the last Briton to fight for the undisputed title, described it as "the most disgusting decision I've ever seen in a boxing ring; Lennox made the fight look easy". Chris Eubank called it "a travesty of justice".

Full story, Sport Section



Lennox Lewis raises his arm at the end of his fight against Evander Holyfield at Madison Square Garden, New York. The fight was ruled a draw

### Lloyd's chiefs face fraud charges over £5.4bn

A GRAND JURY in New York is BY STEVE BOGGAN to examine allegations that Lloyd's insurance market recruited 3,000 American members by hiding liabilities of

£5.4bn from them. The legal move will be the first step in a process that could see senior figures at Lloyd's facing charges of fraud in America over a secret policy dubbed "recruit and dilute". No

one has been prosecuted in the UK over the filbn losses dumped on unsuspecting recruits during the disastrous insurance years of the Eighties.

Twenty thousand new members - or names - were allegedly drawn into the market on the strength of figures that showed no hint of an impending flood of claims for

asbestos pollution and illness. British names have demanded that charges be brought against senior Lloyd's officials who, they claim, knew about the deluge of claims to come, but did nothing to warn them. While the authorities here appear content to let the market regulate itself. US prosecutors are gunning for Lloyd's.

It is understood that the American Federal Post Office service is close to laying evidence before a grand jury in a hid to launch criminal proceedings. Two investigators from the Post Office - who have police powers - visited Britain last year to gather evidence. Sources say that the

men believe they have a prima

facie case of fraud.

**Imre Karacs** 

Now the German

If charges are brought, they will centre on allegations that Lloyd's sent misleading material to American names during negotiations to settle losses in the early Nineties. Those negotiations involved names baving their losses capped in return for agreeing not to take legal action against Lloyd's.

lawyers in America, Mendes & evidence to suggest it had been.

Brook, sent annual reports to London warning of precise numbers of "asbestos bodily in-

jury" claims in the US. Lloyd's said it knew nothing of any grand jury hearing. A claims that information had been withheld from names, It has emerged that Lloyd's other than to say there was no

### INSIDE THIS SECTION

Gun attack in Dublin A gunman opened fire on players and spectators at an amateur football match ki, me, page 2

Up to two children die from abuse or neglect each week Home, page 4 HOME 2-7, FOREIGN 8-12, BUSINESS 13-17, SHARES 16, JOHN WALSH 12, CRYPTIC CROSSWORD 18

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Phillips declares intent The broadcaster Trevor Phillips is entering the race for Mayor of London Home, page 5

EU sieaze inquiry Edith Cresson has held talks with the investigating team Foreign, page 8

End to Afghan strife Twenty years of civil war in Afghanistan appeared to be nearing an end yesterday Foreign, page 9

Gore prepares for poll Al Gore is visiting key states of New Hampshire and Iowa Foreign, page 10

Banking on flotation The French Government has launched the privatisation of Crédit Lyonnais Business, page 13

England's injury loss Paul Grayson will miss the rest of the Five Nations Sport Section, page 8

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children to go to sleep

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Chancellor can declare



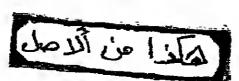


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### IN THE INDEPENDENT TOMORROW

Their brains are frying. Is it their mobile phones or just a case of the mid-term blues?

CATCH UP ON OUR REAL-LIFE STUDENT SOAP. EVERY TUESDAY

HEALTH: THE RISKS OF UNDIAGNOSED LYME DISEASE EPLUS MEDIA Battle Cryst Palac Pecor

THE BEST WRITING, WEEK IN, WEEK OUT: DEBORAH ROSS, HOWARD JACOBSON, HAMISH MCRAE, IAN JACK, ROBERT FISK, TERENCE BLACKER, SUSANNAH FRANKEL, BRIAN VINER, PHILIP HENSHER, JOHN WALSH, RICHARD WILLIAMS, DAVID AARONOVITCH, DEBORAH ORR, THOMAS SUTCLIFFE, MILES KINGTON, SUE ARNOLD, ANDREAS WHITTAM SMITH

# Six shot at soccer match

A GUNMAN opened fire on players and spectators yesterday during an amateur football game after being driven on to the pitch on a motorbike.

Six people were injured, including the referee, a goalkeeper, a club manager and two players from the Irish teams.

The Irish Garda said they knew of no motive for the attack, which occurred during a penalty shoot-out between Duhlin Celtic and Bawnogue Boys at Clondalkin in Dublin.

The motorbike was driven on to the pitch at 1.15pm and the pillion passenger opened fire on spectators then shot indiscriminately at the players.

The identity of pair on the bike was concealed by hel-"It wasn't a big match or any-

league or something like that, (with) only 100 or 200 spectators," a police spokesman said.

the attack said the pillion passenger on the "brand new, black and shiny" motorbike initially fired two shots from a

There were two guys on this bike. They drove on to the field, ahot straight through the field, did a circle, went on round a bit

She said the man then shot again. "Everyone in the field just ran.

Reports from witnesses named one of the injured players as Stephen Grogan. Local milkman Rory Kelly, a spectator, was also injured.

The Bawnogue Boys' goalkeeper was hit in the leg, the match referee was wounded in the ankle and the manager of thing. It was a small district Dublin Celtic was shot. Another player, Eddie Keogh, was

heard a shot fired outside.

"I just thought it was fireworks but then I came out and the road was just mad," she said. "People were running all over the place trying to find out what had happened." Dozens of children had been

playing in the road alongside the pitch, including two of her own, Denise, five, and Richard, three. "I didn't know where they were for a few minutes. All I knew was that shots had been fired."

The Garda believes both attackers were men. There are no suspects at this stage. All of the injured were adults.

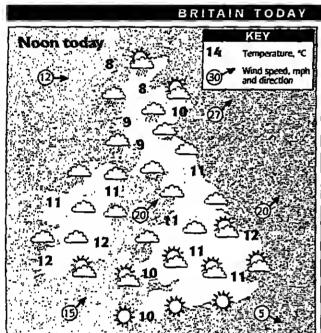
A spokeswoman for St James Hospital said two men had been admitted to the casualty ward with gunshot wounds as a result of the attack hut they had been stabilised.

Two men were admitted to Adelaide Meath Hospital in Tallaght. Their injuries were not

HIGH TIDES



The Deputy Prime Minister, John Prescott, made a plea to save the world's coral reefs while diving in the Maldives



### FORECAST

General situation Scotland and Northern Ireland will start cloudy and windy with some showery rain, cherty in the West, Southern Scotland and Northern Ireland will stay largely cloudy with occasional patchy rain. However, northern Scotland should brighten up for a time with the stong winds easing, although more rain full return this evening. Meanwhile, the northern half of England and Wales will also have a lot of cloud with drizzle in Cumbria, but further south it will be fine with decent sunny periods after a Misty start.

Channel Is, London, SE, Cent S & SW England, S Wales, S Midlands, E Anglia: Fine and very mild with good sunny periods after any early mist has cleared Light and variable winds. Max temp 12-15C (54-59F).

N Middands, Cant N & NE England, E England: Mostly dry and mild with the best of the suriny intervals along the coast, but there will be large amounts of cloud. A moderate south-westerly wind, locally gusty in Yorkshire and Northumberland. Max termp 11-14C (52-57F).

N Wales, NW England, Lake Dist, Isle of Man: Mild but rather cloudy with druzele possible over the hills, especially in Cumbria, Perhaps a little sunshine on the north Welsh coast and around Liverpool Bay. A moderate south-west wind. Mai- temp 11-14C (52-57F)

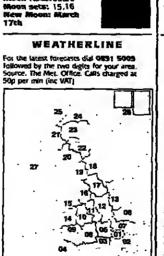
Glasgow, Edinburgh, SE & SW Scotland, N Ireland: Mainly cloudy and blustery with occasional rain and druzzle, more especially in the west. A gusty southwest wind, slowly easing. Max temp 9-12C (48-54F).

NE & NW Scotland, Aberdeen, W & N Isles: Early rain and strong winds will clear to sunny spells and scattered showers for a time, but more rain will reach the vest later this afternoon. The strong to gale force southerly wind will turn south-westerly and ease. Man temp 8-11C (46-52F).

Southern Britain will remain fine and relatively warm with good sunny spells after the clearance of overnight fog and ground frost. The north will be rather cloudy agan tomorrow wiff rain in parts of Scotland and Northern Ireland, but Wednesday should be largely dry and bright.

London: A12 Green Man Roundabout, Leyterstone Major roadworks on new M11 link road Urell 31st December. Bristol: M5 J18-19 Major Roadworks on Avenmenth Bridge, Umili 23rd June 2001 Warmielitshire: A12 Botwoen J10 Tamworth services and J9 Suiton Coldfield. Roadworks and controller Unit 23rd April. South Yorkshire: M1 Botwoon J24 Tinsloy Violuci (A6109) 3 J34 Tinsley Violuci (A6109) 3 J34 Tinsley Violuci (A6109) 10 Janes Southbound Unitil 21st Roadworks, various lane restrictions. Until 1st August.
Derbyshire: A6 Bolweon Derby Southorn Bypass (A50) and Shardlow Road round-shout. East of Alvaston. Contraflow for work on now A50. Until 15th October.
AA Roadwatch: Call 0336 401777 for the latest local and nabonal traffic news.
Source: The Automobile Association. Calls

SUN & MOON WEATHERLINE For the latest forecasts did 0631 5003 lollowed by the two digits for your area. Source. The Met. Office. Calls charged at 50p per min (inc VAT)



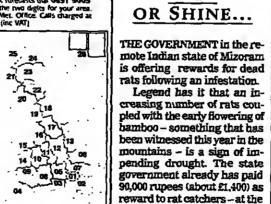
# EXTREMES

YESTERDAY

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# THE ATLANTIC NOON TODAY

THE WORLD YESTERDAY

### Jobs gloom as recession bites

JOB PROSPECTS in Britain are By DIANE COYLE the bleakest for six years and employer confidence has collapsed across the board, with eogineering and other export-related industries the worst hit, according to the regular quarterly survey by Manpower.

A new forecast also predicts recession spreading from manufacturing to the service sector. Days after the Chancellor of upbeat forecast of 1 to 1.5 per

today from Oxford Economic Forecasting puts growth at 0.4 per cent in 1999. Manufacturing output is likely to fall by 1.4 per cent, mainly because of theimpact of the strong pound, it says. The Manpower survey of 2,268 employers is one clear signal that the economic slow-

down is starting to hit the jobs market. "This does not bode well for the coming year," said lain Herbertson, managing predicting significant job cuts.

Economics Editor

director. It reports that 19 per cent of businesses plan to increase employment while 11 per cent plan to cut jobs. The 8 per cent balance is the lowest second-quarter figure since 1993.

when it was just below zero. Manufacturing is weaker than service industries, with an the Exchequer repeated his overall balance of 6 per cent against 11 per cent in services. cent growth this year, a report But both have weakened.

The deterioration is also evident nationwide. The old industrial areas such as South Wales and the West Midlands :

face the worst prospects. Engineering and textiles look frail. The employment balance in general engineering is at its lowest since 1982 - during the UK's steepest post-war recession. In services, private bealth care and banking are

### French strike over tent-athreat to duty-free

CROSS-CHANNEL tourists and BY LINUS GREGORIADIS lorry drivers were bracing themselves last night as French port workers prepared to block ferries and Eurotunnel trains going in and out of France.

Staff at Calais, the busiest Channel port, are taking action today in protest at the threatened end of duty-free.

A spokesman for P&O Stena Line said the action against ferries was to begin at 8am (GMT) and scheduled to last for six hours. "As usual, it is the British

brunt of a protest like this," he said. Eurotunnel said it was ad-

vising people not to travel. ... Kent Police warned yester day that a section of the M20 could be shut to accommodate queuing lorries waiting to cross.

Inspector Peter Savage of Kent Police said the motorway would be closed for as long as the queues lasted. "We hope the dispute does not last all day, but we have to be prepared to cope passenger who has to bear the ... for as long as it takes."

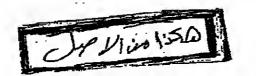
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# Battle of Crystal Palace becomes a farce

LOOKING ACROSS the wide and By JOHN WALSH windswept park, your eye picks out some handsome features: two plaster sphirmes flanking a ng concrete staircase, a prosion of neoclassical alcoves, a noble balustrade. The architecture suggests that we are approaching something unimmably grand, like the pyramids, or a temple to the Nine

But there's nothing at the end of this road. The magnificent glass structure - the Crystal Palace - that was built in Hyde Park by Joseph Paxton for the Great Exhibition in 1851 and relocated south of the Thames three years later, was destroyed ina fire in 1936. No one had the heart to disturb its charred foundations - but soon there will be something new for these steps and sphinnes to lead towards. And the inhabitants of his London suburb are dreading its arrival.

It's a "multiplex" – a palace of varieties conceived on epic lines. At its centre will be eighteen cinema screens, nine "restaurants", a bowling alley and three "leisure boxes", each big enough to accommodate a music venue or a "family entertainment centre". It will be as long as two football stadiums laid side by side. The plans show a long, low tray-shaped structure, both futuristic and deadly dull, with parking space for 950 cars on the roof.

This is the £56m leviathan that has united mild, middle class protesters and dreadlocked, earth-burrowing rriurs in ju parallel) endeavour for the past 2 months. Ever since 1995, when Bromley Council began inviting development suggestions, the locals have been suswar The Crystal Palace Campaign got under way two years ago, and is chaired by Philip Kolvin, a Gray's Inn barrister. It boasts 1,500 volunteers in five

boroughs. "Bromley wanted to attract developers at any price," said Ken Lewington, the campaign's deputy chair, "so they said, 'We will let the market determine the leisure mix'. Whatever makes the most money seemed to be the main criterion".

The free market would never do for SE19. It's not a conspicuously genteel suburb. It has fast-food outlets and urban blight. But there's a lot of civic pride around, along with the sec ond-hand bookshops and Thai restaurants. Palace dwellers at fect to dread the traffic that will gum up the streets every night ous 2am strollers, the drug dealers that will prey on the 15 to 25-year-olds who are the multiplex's ideal customers; and you can hear in their voices the words "Bang goes the neighbourhood". "It is not a class matter," said

Celia Randell, a garden designer and the campaign's most articulate lobbyist. "The objection isn't about taste but about the scale of the thing. It's inappropriate because it's a giant enterprise and will need huge numbers of people to make it Alton Towers. The streets around here just can't cope with the invasion of cars and people". Though Crystal Palace sits

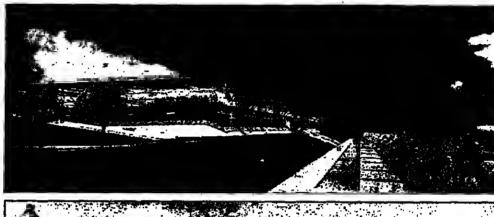
at the edge of five London boroughs - Southwark Lewisham. Croydon, Lambeth and Bromley - the Park is owned by Bromley. The centre of Bromley, its high street and shopping centre, is four miles away from the heart of Crystal Palace, which will have to cope with the fallout from its greedy neighbour's interest in park Tegen eration", It is cold comfort that soon be faced with a colossal bill for policing the battleground that the former "Fresh Air Suburb" has become.

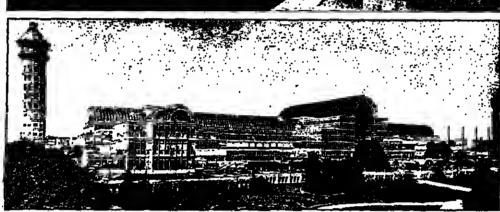
The campaign had lobbied picious, then hostile, then at the Environment Ministry the previous July, in 1997, and succeeded in getting Bromley's planning application put on hold. But in March 1998, John Prescott gave his decision: the plans complied with all legal stipulations. Bromley, he said, "may determine this application as they think fit".

As the middle-class professionals running the campaign tried new legal avenues to block planning permission, the ecowarriors arrived in April, built Suzanne Elkin, a campaign



An eco-warrior taumting a bailiff in the trees at the Crystal Palace site in south-east London where local feeling is running high against the planned 'multiplex' Chris Shurp







The planned £56m leisure complex (top left) and the original Crystal Palace of 1851. Campaigners (right) standing by the site fence as a guard looks on David Rose

towers from wood and metal grilles, tunnelled into the earth, swarmed into the trees and rechristened the palace site "Big Willow Eco Village".

Bromley Council got tough. Anyone helping the crusties found themselves summonsed to the High Court. Mrs Joan Yaxley, a local pensioner found herself arraigned for having brought the demonstrators a dish of bread-and-butter pudding. Ken Lewison received a writ because he spoke to an Evening Standard journalist on the site for 10 minutes.

secretary hooted her car horn when passing the demonstrators last week, and was stopped by a police bike half a mile further. A whiff of the secret state came from Bromley Councillor David Bartlett who declared on television: "If anyone has indicated their support for the occupation of this site, we shall name them. They will have an opportunity to explain them-

selves in court". On 4 March, the police and security guards arrived in force, 2,000 of them chasing 50 eco-warriors, plucking them out of the trees with a cherry-

towers, digging up the tunnels. The Parade was closed to cars, buses and walkers all day. Schoolchildren were abandoned by their buses. The cost of the weeks of surveillance and the ultimate eviction has been estimated at £2m.

An atmosphere of tense constill down in the tunnels. Knots of security men in their fluorescent vellow coats line the wire perimeter of the multiplex site. A girl called Tara, about 14, in dreadlocks, baggy trousers

wind up the men before returning to her placard protest by the roadside. From the rise, where the Crystal Palace once dominated the London skyline, you can see an example of the multiplex architect Ian Ritchie's work - the 'Concert Platform" that stands in the tainment hangs over the park English Landscape Garden, a

now. A handful of crusties are rusted-orange monstrosity, a great rectangular lid pitched at 45 degrees above a concrete stage, like a huge trap about to slam shut.

The Crystal Palace Campaigners sent a petition to the and are still waiting for a reply. "Bromley think if they keep on ignoring public opinion, the locals will cave in eventually But we won't," said Ken Lewi-

son, "Even if the Lords petition

fails, we've got other legal an-

gles up our sleeves". "It's so frustrating." says John Payne, the press officer. "We've got so much professional muscle - 1.500 volunteers, traffic consultants barristers town planners. PR and marketing skills, video makers - and we're

still not winning." On 20 March, they're demon-

picker crane, dismantling the and dirty trainers, stops by to House of Lords on 21 January strating in Leicester Square. then heading for Downing Street On the 30th, Bromley's Development Control Committee meets to consider the full planning application. The campaign will be out in force.

Tan 1

vier

At the edge of the park, Joseph Paxton's monumental carved head is turned away from the sphinxes and alcoves. the balustrades and security men. His sightless eyes look over distant Bromley. His face wears an expression of fathomless contempt. Crystal Palace Campaign:

0181-244 8399

# th strike over Rent-a-lie service offers philanderers an alibi

vince a partner that a weekend tryst in Amsterdam was really spent at a pig-rearing conference in Slough, help is at hand. THE STATE OF THE S

Plunging mendacity to new depths, a company is offering

celeron

FOR SPOUSES trying to con- BY ANDREW BUNCOMBE

pick up the phone and dial an excuse. Joe Taylor, who founded The Alibi Agency, said he and his business partner, Ronnie Brock, got the idea after helpready-made alibis. All the ing out philandering friends it has had 100 people sign up, cheating partner has to do is with excuses. "Ron and I had can also provide faked docu-

were 'playing away'. So we de-cided there could be a demand for such a service and so far

we've been proved right." The agency, which says that

often helped out friends by pro-viding an alibi for them if they add "evidence" to help back up we have not been sussed out by any of these fake downments the lies.

"People knock us, saying what we're doing is immoral and we have had abusive calls from some irate women. But we've also had women wanting to join up," said Mr Taylor, John Barton, Archdeacon of

a client's partner yet but we do

not guarantee they will not be caught out using our service." The agency has drawn criticism for encouraging people to lie and cheat. The Venerable

are produced by a party during divorce proceedings then I would have thought the company could be prosecuted for perjury and I hope they get the high jump.

"They seem to be actively

honesty by providing such a disthe Relate marriage-guidance a disastrous and immoral idea. It is setting people up to deceive in a relationship rather than addressing their problems that

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uate it." Mr Taylor remains unapologetic. He said his website had been visited by potential cheats from other parts of Europe, Japan and the US.

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# Two children a week die from abuse

By Clare Garner

UP TO two children die from child abuse or neglect every week in Britain, and many more go unrecorded, according to a new report by the NSPCC. the most comprehensive ever into child deaths.

Despite public perceptions, only five or six of the 100-odd annual child murders are committed by strangers. In the majority of cases, the perpetrator is a family member, the children's charity report shows.

The Independent has obtained an early draft of the report "Out of Sight", which is due to be published later this week. It reviews deaths from abuse over the past 25 years. children and young people remains hidden from society.

One cootributor, John Fitzgerald, chief executive of the Bridge Child Care Development Service, wrote: "It is outrageous that over 1,000 children die every decade fol-

lowing abuse and neglect. "If by developing our knowledge and skills, we could collectively haive the oumber over the next 10 years, that would mean saving the lives of at least 500 children as well as preventing countless life-threatening or disabling injuries."

each year in the UK

child's mother

by care-givers each week in the UK

Five to six children are killed by strangers

49 per cent of the perpetrators are the

33 per cent of the perpetrators are the

4 per cent of perpetrators are siblings

child's father, step-father, or mother's

nationwide campaign to end cruelty to children within a generation. The "Full Stop" campaign features hard-hitting television advertisements designed to open everyone's eves to child abuse, and to show that

Wynne, a leading paediatrician at the Leeds General Infirmary, has identified a strong correlatioo between social deprivation and the death rate of children under the age of two. The excess mortality in the socially disadvantaged children cootinues throughout child-

hood, she claims. Children are most at risk of being killed before they reach and highlights how the abuse of the age of one (40 per cent). Dr Wynne notes. A further 20 per cent of child murders occur before the age of four, and the remainder occur up to 15.

Forty-nine per cent of child murders are committed by the father, stepfather or partner of the child's mother, according to Dr Wynne's research. Thirtythree per cent are committed by the child's mother, 4 per cent by siblings, and most of the rest by people who are imrelated but

provide care to the child. Dr Wynne, who is an NSPCC trustee, lists some of the reasons given to explain a murder. They include escalating punishment, as part of "domestic

CHILD MURDERS

Between one and two children are killed The rest of the perpetrators are

violence", an unwanted baby (which may be disabled), a psychotic parent, and as part of child sexual abuse.

The public is ill-informed about the prevalence of child murders at the hands of relamost cruelty to children occurs tives or care-givers because of the media's highly selective Another contributor, Dr Jane coverage, according to a study carried out this year by the Glasgow Media Group as part of the NSPCC report.

It shows a sharp decline in the volume of media coverage of child deaths between the 1980 and 1998 and claims the media is only interested in blaming essionals or strangers, not amily members.

Professor Roy Meadow, pres ident of the British Paediatric Society, conducted an 18-year study of 81 children who were thought to have died of natural causes but turned out to have been killed by their parents.

He wrote in the report: "It is a national scandal that we accept a situation in which so many young children die of unknown causes.

"If one out of every thousand 21-year-olds died suddenly and unexpectedly without an identifiable cause, there would be a national scandal."

The report includes a table of children who died between 1973 and 1998, detailing the causes of death as well as the



The Green Arrow, a traditional steam locomotive, made a return trip from Marylebone Station in London, where trainspotters watched, to High Wycombe Station for the London station's 100th anniversary celebration

### MI5 'bury' evidence in bombing

APPEAL COURT judges will hold a secret hearing at the Strand Law courts today to decide whether a Public Interest Immunity (PID certificate should prevent lawyers for two convicted Palestinians hearing evidence they believe may support their case.

unrelated but providing care to the child Samar Alami and Jawad 40 per cent of deaths due to homicide Botmi were convicted in 1996 of conspiracy to bomb the Israeli 20 per cent of deaths due to homicide embassy in London, New evioccur between the age of one and four dence suggests that MI5 were The remainder occur between the age of warned that the attack in 1994 was going to take place.

The two Palestinians are now serving 20 years in British prisons for their alleged part in received.

Middle East Correspondent

the attack. But they have named the man they believe carried out the bombing as a Palestinian called Reda Moghrabi and suspect that they were "set up" for arrest.

When David Shayler, the former MI5 officer, revealed in the Mail on Sunday 11 months after their conviction that MI5 had received advance warning of the attack, Alami's solicitor, Gareth Peirce, immediately demanded to see the information which Shavler's colleagues had

Straw overruled MI5's attempt to suppress details of the case and allowed the Mail on Sunday to reveal that the MI5 report was "buried" in a cupboard where it was only found after

the bombing. MI5 had failed to pass on the details either to the police or to the Israelis themselves, Unless the appeal judges decide otherwise today, however, lawyers for the defence may never know details of the warning.

In the aftermath of the Gulf War, the government placed PII certificates on security documents which showed that the

The Home Secretary Jack Board of Trade had approved the sale of items of military use to Iraq by the firm Matrix Churchill

> Only when a judge ruled for their disclosure did the prosecution abandon its case against Matrix Churchill officials. "The , method of dealing with this sort of material through PIIs is very questionable," a lawyer involved in European law said yesterday.

"It involves a hearing beween the prosecution and a judge or appeal judges in the absence of the defence. This is a practice that is being challenged in the European courts."

Oddly, news of the forthcoming secret hearing does not appear to have been disclosed to the defence - as it should have been under lawand we may never know what

Alami, who said she received explosives from Moghrabi for experiments with bombs which could be used against Israeli military targets near the Lebanese border, denies any involvement in the 1994 attack on the London embassy. Although the police acknowledged that the bomber was never arrested, they have shown no interest in finding Moghrabi.

British Gas announces the following new gas prices

occur before the age of one

Statistics compiled by Dr Jane Wynne for the

five and 15

NSPCC report

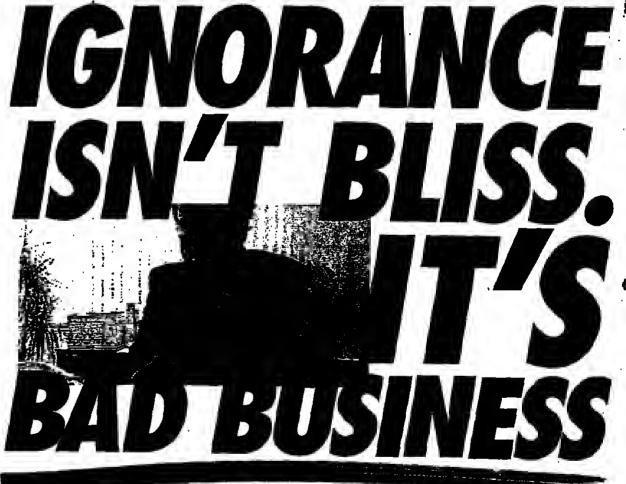
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Broa Lawl

# Broadcaster accused of exploiting Lawrence case in fight for mayor

BY PAUL WAUGH Political Correspondent

THE PHONEY war over who should become the Mayor of London finally ended yesterday when broadcaster Trevor Phillips declared his intention to stand for the post.

After months of apeculation, the gloves came off in the race when Mr Phillips announced that he was definitely eotering the contest and wanted to run as a Labour candidate. Mr Phillips' decision to declare his candidacy means that be is only the third person. aloog with Ken Livingstone and LordArcher of Westonsupar-Mare, to publicly announce his aim to become Britain'a first directly elected

The 45-year-old presenter of Loodon Weekend Television's London Programme said he had decided to stand because recent reports of who was and was not in the running were in danger of turning the whole affair into "a farce".

"After 20 years of crusading for London as a reporter I think it's about time instead of just telling politicians what to do, I would like to play a part in making it happen," he said.

However, Mr Phillips was immediately plunged into controversy over his declaratioo that the Stephen Lawrence case was one of the main factors hehind his decision to stand for mayor.

He said that "without any doubt at all", the inquiry into the racist murder of the Londoo teenager had convinced him that more black people should get involved in public life.

"In the last few weeks, in the Lawrence discussion and debate, what we have seen in London is the fact that this is a city of great diversity. I think I can play a part in turning that diversity into our advantage. I would like to lead that city." he told BBC's Breakfast with Frost programme.

"We who come from minority communities have a right to say that we would like things to be better and different and to



Lord Archer of Weston-super-Mare Why Mayor?

"This city needs a strategic approach to tackle its problems and needs someone banging the drum for it abroad." Why Me?

"I've spent the past two years meeting the people that run things, seeing the problems and finding solutions." My Rivals?

"I welcome all candidates who are prepared to take this seriously and do the hard work."

responsibility. That means we have to join the police and get involved with public affairs and I think that by doing this I might be giving a lead to some

of my community." But Tory sources alleged that Mr Phillips was "cynically" using public concern over the

a charge he rebutted vigorously as "nonsense".

I was the first person to do a documentary on the Lawrence case in 1993 and have been a supporter of the family's efforts since day one. To suggest that it is cynical of me to say it has played a part in me to happen, we also have a tragedy to justify his candidacy, standing is itself utterly cynical

and outrageous," Mr Phillips

Ken Livingstone

Why Me?

told The Independent. . Mr Phillips was also called on by Lord Archer, the Tory froot-runner, to give up his job as a current affairs presenter to avoid any potential conflict of interest or media bias.

"I just hope Trevor and all others who come aboard are

\*London needs a voice again, it needs to be given back its "I have screwed it up once, I will not do the same again. Of course I have yet to persuade Tony of that."

"I welcome them all. The more the merrier as far as I'm

going to devote their full energies to this and not do it part time. I presume Trever will be giving up his job as a news presenter," Lord Archer said.

The broadcaster said that he would stand aside from chairing mayoral TV debates, but refused to stop reporting on Londoo issues.

Trevor Phillips

"It's a great job. But it shouldn't be a circus about who Tony Blair Ilkes and who William Hague says can stand."

"I want to send a signal that there are people who are serious and who want to do the best for the city."

"I feel this shouldn't be a platform for people who are, frankly, near the back end of their political careers,"

Recent reports have named Frank Dobson, the Secretary of State for Health and Mo Mowlam, the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, as the Labour leadership's favoured candidates for mayor, even though both have dismissed the idea. Other possible candidates include Nick Raynsford,

the minister for London. Glenda Jackson, the Transport minister, and Tony Banks, the Sports minister.

Mr Phillips was accused last ar by the Tories of using his role as head of the "Yes" campaign in the referendum oo the Londoo mayoralty as a platform for his own ambitions. | glican Church abroad.

over women bishops

By CLARE GARNER Religious Affairs Correspondent

THE ARCHBISHOP of York, Dr David Hone, will resign if the Church of England decides to

consecrate women bishops. Dr Hope, the second most senior figure in the Church of England's hierarchy, has told friends that he could never take part in the consecration of women, adding: "I just couldn't

stay in those circumstances." Resignation would be the only "logical conclusion" if the church agreed to promote women priests, he has reportedly said. He is understood to be particularly concerned about the mounting pressure to abolish safeguards protecting opponents of women priests.

At present, the 1993 Act of Synod allows traditionalists who oppose women priests to be administered to by so-called "flying bishops". However, it is hard to see bow this compromise could be maintained once women hishops get the goahead from the General Synod.

Many pro-women campaign-ers feel that, five years after the ordination of the first women priests, the time has come seriously to consider the question of women bishops, and a private member's motion to that effect is likely to be debated at the General Synod this year.

Dr Hope's uncompromising stance will provide a boost to the traditionalists, led by the Rev Geoffrey Kirk, of Forward in Faith, who intends to create a "Third Province" hreakaway church if women bishops become a reality. Just as 140 priests left the Church of England over women priests, more are expected to depart in protest at women hishops.

Christina Rees, the chair-woman of Watch (Women and the Church), said: "It is very sad that the Archbishop of York feels he could not accommodate this development, I am convinced that God has shown the church that this is the direction to take."

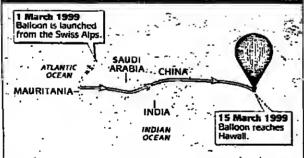
Around 2,000 womeo have been ordained as priests, and female bishops exist in the An-

### **Balloonists on course** for new world record

A BRITISH-SWISS duo was on the verge of hreaking the world distance record for a halloon flight last night and now looks poised to become the first to circumnavigate the globe in such an aircraft. Good weather forecast for

the next few days has increased the prospects for success for the British halloonist Brian Jones and his co-pilot Betrand Piccard on their journey in the Swiss-sponsored balloon Breitling Orbiter 3. They bope to arrive in North

Africa by next weekend. Jones, 51, from Erlestoke in Wiltshire. and Piccard, 41, launched from the Swiss Alps oo 1 March. Yesterday they dodged thunder THE PATH OF THE BREITLING ORBITER



at a speed of 47 knots (54mph). By yesterday evening they were just 50 miles short of the official world distance record of 14.852 miles, set last year in a

American pilot Steve

The best time of year for a successful circumnavigation balloon is from November to February, when flight is

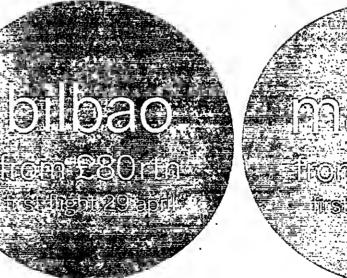
aided in the northern bemi-sphere by the gusting jet

Tonight the Breitling Orbiter 3 is expected to enter a favourable subtropical jet stream, hlowing from the Equator, which could increase the speed to 125mph, putting them oo course for victory.

The jet stream should carry the ballooo over Mexico on Wednesday and across the Caribbean between Jamaica and Cuba into the North Atlantic for the last leg of the three-week journey.

The two men are reported to be in high spirits. "The past seven days above the ocean, seeing only water, has been difficult but they are doing well,"

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### IN BRIEF

Stunt skydiver out of hospital

THE RAF skydiver seriously injured in an accident at a football match last December has been discharged from hospital. Flight Sergeant Nigel Rogoff, 39, from Moseley. Birmingham, smashed both his legs and pelvis as he plunged 60ft in a half-time stunt that went wrong during the match between Arsenal and Aston Villa.

Boy, 10, killed by model plane A 10-YEAR-OLD boy was killed when he was hit by a model aeroplane. The boy, certified dead at the scene, was

struck during a model aircraft club display at Colney Heath, near St Albans, yesterday. An Ambulance Service spokeswoman said his father was with him at the time. Remand prisoner aged 17 dles

from HMP Gateside in Greenock, Scotland, died

A 17-YEAR-OLD remand prisoner, Steven John Govan yesterday in hospital, three days after being found unconscious in his cell by staff. He had been remanded to the prison on three charges of assault and robbery.

Frozen food batters chippies

THE FISH and chip shop is in danger of being frozen out by a rival supplier. Families are more likely to oven cook frozen fish and chips as a more convenient, healthier alternative to the chip shop, research for the Frozen Food Information Service showed.

### National Lottery winners

.

Five winners shared Saturday's £7.3m National Lottery jackput, each netting \$1,475,972. Nineteen tickets matched five balls and the bonus ball to win £119.511. The winning numbers were 1, 2, 15, 17, 24 and 44; boous hall 22.

### Man held over girl's killing

DETECTIVES HAVE arrested a 20-year-old man in connection with the death of Rebecca Groves, 17, whose body was discovered in Thringstone, Leicestershire, on Saturday.

The suspect was taken to Loughborough police station for an interview. Rebecca, 17, was last seen alive at 11.30pm on Friday when she left the Hare and Hounds Pub in Whitwick, near Loughborough, where she had speot the evening with friends, a police spokesman said. Her family grew anxious when she failed to return home and contacted the police early the next morning after their own searches failed.

Their worst fears were realised when she was found dead on the edge of a wooded area in Thringstone at 6.30am on Saturday morning. Her body was taken to Leicester Royal Infirmary, where a post mortem showed she had been strangled to death. There was also evidence of sexual assault.

ager's family appealed to be left alone. "We have not yet even happened or why. Rebecca was a wonderful young woman with her whole life in front of her," the statement said. "The farnly needs to be left to grieve and remember her"

Superintendent Graham Thomas appealed for anyone who saw Rebecca oo Friday night or anyone who knows someone who returned home late on Friday or early Saharday with muddied clothing or in an agitated state to contact them.

"I would appeal for anyone with any information at all about how Rebecca came to meet her death, to contact the incident room al Coalville police station," Supt Thomas said.

Contact Supt Thomas on 0116-222 2222 or Crimestoppers of 0800 555111

patient care."

# NHS to appoint 600 fraudbusters

THE BIGGEST crackdown on By JEREMY LAURANCE NHS fraud begins today with a campaign to save £150m lost through prescription charge

Patients claiming free prescriptions will now have to produce evidence of their entitlement in the first stage of a NHS is losing as a result of scheme that will eventually see fraud but it is estimated to run 600 "fraudbusters" appointed into hundreds of millions of throughout the NHS.

The staff for the £4m-a-year scheme will be trained in detection and interview tech- NHS's budget is £44bn a year of the £5.85 prescription charge

**Health Editor** 

niques and will target GPs, dentists, opticians and pharmacists involved in expensive scams to defraud the NHS.

No one knows how much the pounds. Jim Gee, the NHS's chief fraudhuster appointed last September, said: "The

information but it is clear that substantial sums are at stake."

A £1m advertising campaign begins today warning patients and pharmacists that from 1 April those claiming free preevidence of their age or other reason for their entitlement. More than four of five prescriptions are handed out free

going astray that would be tirement age, and those on 6440m. We don't have hard benefits, plus a few smaller groups, are entitled to receive free prescriptions.

A national Counter Fraud Service is being set up with eight regional teams, two scriptions will have to produce prescription and dental fraud. and a mobile team.

By March 2000, every health authority will have its own this will be extended to every never delivered.

and if only 1 per cent of that is but only children, those over re- NHS trust by March 2001, totalling 600 staff.

A survey last year found doctors and opticians involved in fraud were targeting nursing homes because residents were often confused and vulnerable and made poor witnesses when specialist teams targeting a scam was discovered Typical schemes involved prescribing new spectacles with stronger lenses to residents every few months and making out precounter fraud specialist and scriptions for drugs that are

dentist who claimed payment for extraction of milk teeth from a patient aged 100 and another who claimed for filling. then extracting, then filling again and extracting again, the same teeth in the same patient. A popular fraud among opticians was to claim payment for tinted lenses and then provide plain lenses. The survey, by the Health Care Financial Man-

agement Association, found

that the average fraud was

which it said was the tip of the

Mr Gee made his name tackling fraud at Lambeth council in south London. His investigations resulted in losses being halved, and led to the sacking of 120 employees. He said: "We know most about fraud in the area of prescriptions and our estimate is that £150m a year is being lost. We want to reduce free up large sums of money for that by half by 2002-3. We aim

worth £50,000 and health au- to reduce fraud throughout the thorities detected £8m worth, NHS to an absolute minimum within 10 years."

He said he had been encouraged by the backing he had received for the campaign from medical and pharmaceutical organisations, "The thing that has impressed me most is the enthusiasm of all NHS staff for the work we are undertaking. They are very clear why we are doing it - to

# Huge increase in experiments on GM animals

BY CHARLES ARTHUR **Technology Editor** 

BRITAIN'S LABORATORIES are using 350,000 genetically modified animals every year and the number is rocketing as the use of normal hreeds has

Many of the GM, or transgenic, animals used had human genes added in order to study human diseases. Examples included Polly, a cloned sheep incorporating a human gene which makes a protein used to treat cystic fibrosis (CF), and animals which have been given the human gene that leads to CF.

Other applications have led to hairless mutant mice, which are used to study the effects of carcinogens and other products on the skin. However, there are no plans to develop GM animals for food.

Home Office figures show that in 1997, the last year for which full data is available. there were 353,000 GM animals used in experiments, an increase of 17 per cent over the previous year, and of 65 per

At the same time, 237,000 animals bred to display a "harmful genetic defect" - such as hlindness or stunted growth were used in experiments.

The proportion is expected to grow over the next few vears, although a leading scientist says that it could drop almost to zero within a decade when the pattern of human genes is unravelled.

The pressure group Animal Aid claims that such animals are in effect "bred to suffer" and that the addition of the genes has frequently proved to be useless, especially in mice, where the human genes do not



GM mice: 'Bred to suffer.' say animal rights activists

necessarily lead to the human disease. Mice do not develop CF, for example

"Much of this is research which you can't extrapolate into human heart disease or illnesses such as cystic fibrosis." said Andrew Tyler, director of the group.

The more that you argue that you can learn things about people by using transgenic mice, the more damage you coogenital disabilities causing could cause by applying that to

> ANIMALS IN THE LAB onimals experiment 1995 215,308 2.75m 1996 303,850 2.72m 1997 353,000 2.64m

Source: Home Office

such research to be stopped, in favour of test-tube experiments with donated human tissue.

However, Professor Gordon McVie, who heads the Cancer Research Campaign, said that experiments with transgenic animals are useful, and reduce suffering to animals overall.

We use thousands fewer normal mice by applying transgenic technology," he said. "It means we can study exactly the gene that we want to, and find out exactly what its function is. It also means we don't have to hreed so many mice.

"More importantly, it could be that in a few years we will not need to use mice at all. Once the Human Genome Project is complete, in about 2003. we might be able to read off all the genes straight out.

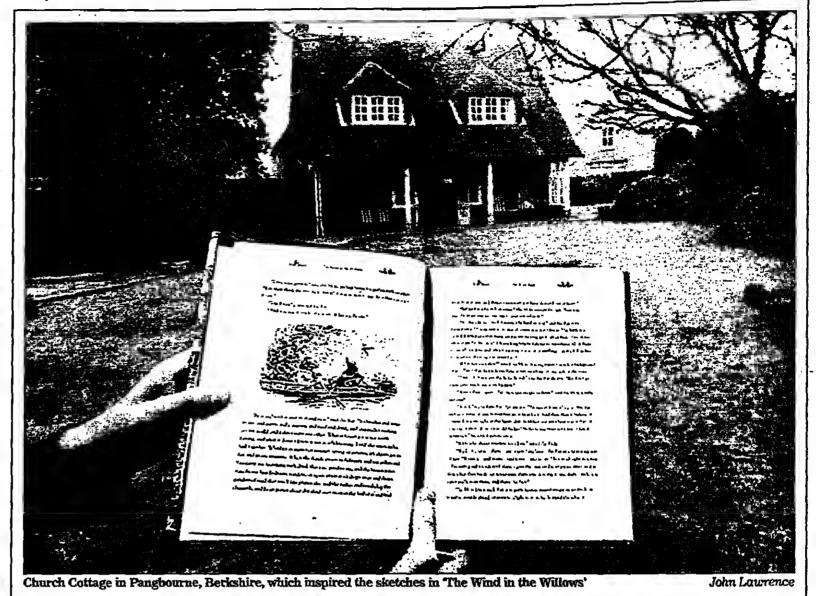
But until then, I expect a growth in the use of transgenic

The number of experiments on animals peaked in 1969. when more than 5.5 million were carried out in the UK. Since then the number has fall-

The rise in the use of transgenic animals has alarmed Lord Alton of Liverpool, who has followed the debate.

"The number of genetically modified animals used now is phenomenal. In the early Nineties It was a few tens of thousands. But this shows that in the past few years, laboratories in Britain have produced more than 800,000 genetically modified animals."

"The sheer scale of what's taking place is all happening without proper public debate." he added. "It's really outpacing any debate about



### Ratty's back garden up for sale

GENERATIONS OF children By KATE WATSON-SMYTH have grown up with the ad-Badger in The Wind in the Wiltage in Berkshire, which has

just gone up for sale. Church Cottage, in Pangbourne, is where Kenneth Grahame lived for eight years until his death in 1932. It is also where the author envisaged his characters messing about in boats on the nearby river

Grahame actually wrote The Wind in the Willows while

ventures of Ratty. Mole and living downriver at Cookham Dean. But when it was publows, but the familiar line lished in 1908, he was unhapdrawings of the characters py with the original drawings owe their existence to a cot- and came to the conclusion that it was a book that could not be iliustrated.

In 1931, the publishers Methuen, asked EH Shepard, already famous for his depictions of Winnie the Pooh and Piglet, to try and produce something suitable, and he went to Pangbourne to visit the

In an account of the visit, Shepard wrote how Grahame

had imagined his creations' homes near the cottage and said: "I love these little people, be kind to them."

"He told me of the river nearby, of the meadows where Mole broke ground that spring Rat had his house, of the pools where Otter hid and of the Wild Wood way up on the hill above the river, a fearsome place but for the sanctuary of Badger's home and Toad

Shepard went out with his sketch pad and drew the real places that Grahame had pointed out and added his

was enchanted by the subsequent pictures.

Four years after Gra-Elspeth wrote to Arthur Rackham who had been asked to morning, of the banks where illustrate an early edition of the book but was too busy. Mrs Grahame offered to show him the special areas of the river "that might he connected with Toad. Mole and company", and he too pro-

duced a set of illustrations. Roger White, the owner of Church Cottage - which is expected to sell for £425,000 -

own inspiration. The author Wild Wood and the river bank from drawings in his strolls around the village.

"Shepard never mentioned hame's death, his widow the exact places which inspired him hut you can see them when you walk around," he said.

"When Grahame wrote The Wind in the Willows he was drawing on a wide experience of many places hut when he moved to Pangbourne he appears to have associated these images of the book with areas

around the village. "And this is the place he chose to return to in the final said he had recognised the years of his life."

# Skin disease hits Scots dolphins

THE MORAY Firth dolphins. one of only two resident populations in Britain, are suffering from severe skin disease, a worldwide study has found. Some of the animals have

two thirds of the visible parts of their bodies covered in lesions, while in others the normally smooth dark skin has turned orange or is pitted like corroded aluminium.

A scientific survey of 10 other groups of the same species, the bottlenose dolphin, Tursiops truncatus, has found that there are some skin that the Scottish animals, on which a tourist trade in the By MICHAEL MCCARTHY **Environment Correspondent** 

far the most seriously affected. Nearly all the 130 animals in the colony are suffering.

The research, to he published in the Proceedings of the Royal Society, has so far found no link between the skin disease and pollution, but may indicate one with water temperature

The Moray Firth dolphins are the most northerly resident group of the species in the world and live in colder and less saline water than any others. "They are a group on the edge,"

said Paul Thompson, a senior lecturer in zoology at Aberdeen University, who leads the study of them with a colleague from the University of St Andrews, Beo Wilson. The researchers have so

far been unable to detect the agent causing the skin disease whether it is a virus, bacterium or fungus - or whether it is affecting the dolphins' hehaviour. As wild dolphins are so difficult to study, they cannot even detect whether it is causing them discomfort. But it is certainly ugly in appearance. "Some of them do look pretty grotesque," Mr Thompson

when the Scottish researchers began photographing and studying the dorsal fins of individual dolphins in order to recognise them. They then organised the worldwide survey to see if it was prevalent

Bottlenose colonies were studied in Portugal, Ireland, Brittany. Croatia, the United States and New Zealand, as well as Britain's other resident colony in Cardigan Bay in Wales, and a smaller number of animals off the Cornish coast. All were found to have some The Cardigan Bay animals

The disease came to light were also quite badly affected, hen the Scottish researchers hut the dolphins of the Moray Firth were by far the worst hit. "It is a cause for concern, as

this is a very small colony, and it highlights their vulnerability," Mr Thompson said. The Moray Firth animals have already been observed

exhibiting unusual behaviour as well as unusual skin conditions - they are known to attack and kill porpoises, apparently from sheer aggression, and last year it was revealed that they have even attacked their own young. But no connection can so far been drawn between the two pheoomeoa, Mr Thompsoo



A Moray Firth dolphin with skin disease

Ben Wilson/University of Aberdeen

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The Burford Bridge	£45	The Swan	£45
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Brandon Hall	<b>538</b>	The Black Swan	£53
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# Hague: make \*divorce tougher

WILLIAM HAGUE will attempt to put traditional "family values" back at the heart of Tory policy tonight with a call for divorce to be made more difficult.

In a move that will delight his party's right wing, the Conservative leader will claim that the Major government was wrong to change the law to allow more marriages to break up.

Mr Hague will state that there should be a longer "cooling off period" to force couples who want to split up to reconsider their decision.

His comments follow his speech to the Conservative Spring Forum this weekend in which he called for an "explicit and special" recognition of

marriage within the tax system. To mark the final day of consultation on the Government's "Supporting Families" Green Paper, the 37-year-old MP who has been married to his wife Fiion for just over a year, will tell BBC Radio Five Live that divorce at present is "too easy".

"I was one of the cabinet ministers in the last government who actually voted against my own government's legislation because I thought that it was going to make di-

vorce too easy," he says. "I voted for a longer period that people would have to wait before they got divorced, so I'm Sunday Programme. on that side of the debate. I would rather see divorce diffithought that it is too easy to di-

Mr Hague will add that while he accepts that there are some marriages where breakdown is the best outcome, "Tm not wholly convinced we have got the balance right."

His tough new stance on divorce echoes his speech at the weekend, in which he deplored the fact that a "left-wing, liberal consensus" had emerged

60

C

NATASHA WALTER

IN THE MONDAY REVIEW PAGE 4

Political Correspondent

which said that marriage did not matter.

The Tory leader went on to attack the Government's decision to scrap Married Couples' Allowance from the tax system and hinted that he would reintroduce similar measures if elected.

Mr Hague's criticism of the Major and Thatcher administrations prompted anger among some backbenchers, including Mr Major himself.

In his spring conference speech, Mr Hague said he wanted to "break free" from the past and included a point-bypoint rebuttal of Tory errors such as excessive centralism, disregard for the public sector and betrayal on tax.

However, Mr Major privately told former cabinet colleagues that he was furious with his successor for going too far in attacking his record in

Former Tory minister Alan Clark, MP for Kensington and Chelsea, warned Mr Hague against criticising previous Tory leaders.

"I don't at all feel comfortable with the way he's attackhis immediate predecessors," be told GMTV's

"He may disclaim this but in fact the criticisms are levelled cult rather than easy. I've often at both Mrs Thatcher and John Major and I don't think, in party terms, that is conducive to unity and it's certainly not conducive to self-respect."

Michael Ancram, the Tory chairman, insisted that Mr Hague had "made it absolutely clear that he was not knocking past leaders". However. the Tories had to "face up to things" and admit there were "certain things in the past which we did get wrong".



Prunella Scales - Sybil in the TV sitcom 'Fawlty Towers' - is concerned at the disappearance of 'posh' accents

Lost voice of gentry sought

THE ACTRESS Primella By DAVID LISTER Scales, who played television's Arts News Editor
Sybil Fawity, is spearheading a national project to remind Britain how to talk "posh".

Years of worshipping work-ing-class and regional accents have, it seems, had one unforeseen consequence. Actors lived in?" do not know where to learn the cadences of the upper classes. Faced with a play by Noel

Coward they are likely to struggle for the right accent. careers than Prunella Scales; she was the first actress to play the Queen on stage. More and more over the last few years I've noticed

what I can only describe as an inverted snobbery in actors, in hereact of speech," rise says. "Young actors especially will; quite rightly, take endless trouble to perfect a regional or urban working-class accent or cess, but when they appear in

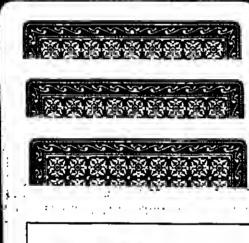
or Coward, they don't seem to ask themselves, How did this particular person speak, given the life they led, the people they met and the period they

Scales contacted Crispin Jewitt, director of the National Sound Archive at the British Library, asking to hear recordings of past aristocrats. Few have had to play "posh" politicians, clergy, landowners, at a higher level in their members of the Royal Family, débutantes, society hostesses, masters of foxhounds and actors of bygone years.

She says she is "delighted and moved to discover there is an interest at the National Sound Archive in compiling what I call a library of bosh

"It is very difficult nowa-days to find records of people from 'grand' backgrounds, or any such people who are prepared to impart their speech





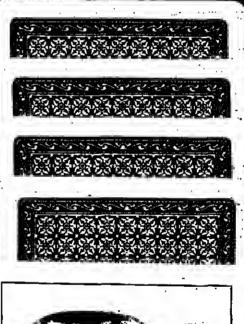


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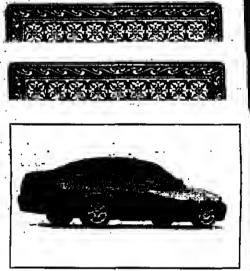
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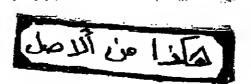
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EDITH CRESSON held discus- By STEPHEN CASTLE sions with the team investigating the sleaze allegations against her vesterday, one day before their report on European Union frand is expected.

The meeting came as Socialist MEPs stepped up the pressure on Ms Cresson, threatening again to sack the entire European Commission if individuals criticised by the

Amid mounting tension in Brussels, Ms Cresson was one of eight top European officials given the opportunity to see the findings of the committee of "wise persons", whose report will be delivered at 5pm today.

The former French prime minister shows no sign of quitting her post as Commissioner for Education and Research. raising the prospect of a re-run of January's heated dispute between European Parliament and the Commission.

A spokesman for Ms Cresson said she was happy to study the report's findings, but would not comment until tonight.

The final draft of the report was being concluded last night before being handed to the presidents of the European Commission and Parliament today. The Commission will hold an emergency meeting on the findings at 9pm.

Pauline Green, leader of the European Parliament's largest group, the Socialists, said: "If the report shows wrongdoing by any individual then whoever they are, they must be rooted out." Ms Green warned that if the Commission President Jacques Santer "dithers or delavs, it will be his own head that

in Brussels

Her comments were ominous, as the Socialists helped avert a mass sacking of the Commission in January.

Alan Donnelly, leader of the 60 Labour MEPs, said: "The must act immediately on the recommendations of the report to ensure his personal credibility and the continued



Jacques Santer: Under pressure to act forcefully

Ms Cresson's fate depends on the tone of the report and whether it specifically identifies Commissioners as culprits, or simply makes general criti-

As the fraud saga reaches its final chapter, Ms Cresson and Mr Santer are locked in a bitter dispute. Ms Cresson believes that Mr Santer is

conspiring to sacrifice her. When the fraud allegations hroke in January, Mr Santer said stuck to the collective line of defence, arguing that he friend, Rene Berthelot, to the would rather resign than see post of scientific visitor.

sured. To Ms Cresson's anger, that line has changed. Mr Santer said last month that he would consider asking any Commissioner judged guilty of misdeeds to step down.

On Friday Mr Santer added: "The committee has worked in president of the Commission a professional and objective manner. The Commission will respond to its recommendations as they concern the general operations of the Commission or the conduct of individual members."

In fact, Mr Santer does not have the power to sack individual Commissioners. With the support of the Commission he can only refer their cases to the European Court of Justice. This is the only body that can sack a Commissioner. That could be the start of a comnlex judicial process. Ms Cresson's tough line con-

trasts with a softer tone from Manuel Marin, a vice-president of the European Commission and another target of the MEPs. He may be ready to resign if criticised by the report of "wise persons".

The inquiry was triggered by allegations that as many as eight of the 20 Commissioners presided over fraud or serious irregularities in their departments, or handed contracts to friends or relatives.

Investigations into the "Leonardo da Vinci" youth programme, for which Ms Cresson is responsible, revealed a catalogue of mismanagement, dubious practice and suspected fraud. Ms Cresson is accused of nepotism after appointing a



Edith Cresson, one of eight European Commissioners who have been investigated following allegations of fraud

# Watchdog claims EU fraud costs billions

BILLIONS OF pounds are being lost each year through European Union waste and fraud, the Government's spending written to Tony Blair demandwatchdog has warned.

receive a damning internal fraud and mismanagement" in of EU funds today, the Comptroller and Auditor-General. Sir John Bourn, produced his the EU's auditors found major no effect" on fishing activity. own document, cataloguing a weaknesses in the manageseries of scams and bungles. ment of its budget, there had Many of the new revelations concerned the Common Agricultural Policy, on which Britain has been lobbying for reform.

Westminster Correspondent

As MEPs prepared to ture of cronyism, nepotism, emerged that some were

Sir John found that after been "little evidence of improvement". His report detailed specific instances of waste and fraud adding up to more

■ A scheme to cut the number of fishing boats in the EU which removed 290 vessels from the fleet at a cost of £200m -almost - the firms were not entitled. ing more action against "a cul- £700,000 per boat. It later | Durum wheat farmers were | New Zealand butter imporalready out of service and oth- to such an extent that £2bn was side strict fat content criteria ers had been sunk in accidents The EU auditors concluded four consecutive years in which the scheme had "practically

sailed from France, one full of olive oil and the other full of sunflower oil. Both docked in Italy and the olive oil was unloaded. Officials were told the oil for the Conservative MEPs have than £3bn. Among them were: Italian market was sunflower

ties. A total of £4.6m was lost in import tax and EU aid to which

overcompensated for low yields ted into the EU which fell outlost between 1994 and 1997. As required to quality for a low rate almost one-lifth of that for Cenwell as receiving a fixed mini- of import duty. UK Customs and tral and Eastern Europe was mum price, which made up for Excise officials failed to check never paid out. the yield, the farmers also it properly and as a result taxes received special aid for every worth some £270m went unpaid. ton harvested. Sixty five thousand cattle, boats in Yugoslavia bound for

slaughtered under a scheme Italy which were unloaded on had apparently been compen- customs. They went on to the

oil, which attracted lower du- sated. Some cattle carcasses EU black market and £410m in could remain in storage for tax was lost. five years because of a shortage

of incineration facilities. ■ Cigarettes loaded into speed-

■ Evidence of "suspected major fraud and irregularity" in Mediterranean countries and

management of Structural

Funds programmes. In their let-ter to Tony Blair, the Conservative MEPs accused the Prime Minister of backing "business" the EU aid budget. One-third of as usual" in the EU, despite the budget for southern major financial irregularities.

Roy Perry, the Tory budetary control spokesman, said that if today's internal report named individual commission- the sum total of individual play-Sir John called for better ers then action must be taken ers," Mr Müller said. He would information from the Euro- against them. "Since Decem- comment on Mr Lafontaine's pean Commission on its ber, Blair's boys in Brussels abilities only so far as to say that finances, for new efforts to co- have refused to support Conordinate customs controls servative moves to clean up designed to stop BSE could not the Adriatic Coast as contra- across Europe and for stronger Euro-fraud. Throughout this be traced, even though farmers band instead of going through procedures to improve the sorry saga, Blair's silence has

### Oskar breaks silence to slam leader

BY IMRE KARACS in Berlin

OSKAR LAFONTAINE had promised a dignified silence over his dramatic resignation. and it lasted three days. While still not answering calls from the German chancellery, the former finance minister told the world vesterday he had quit because of the government's "poor teamwork".

The mistakes we made were made by all of us," he told television crews staking out his house in Saarbrucken house. "The reason for my resignation is the poor teamwork we provided in the last few months. Without good teamwork you can't work together successfully."

There was no hiding his bitterness towards Chancellor Gernard Schröder, who had contrived to leak his criticism of the minister to the press. Teamwork requires that you watch out for each other and you stick together, especially in public," Mr Lafontaine added. When the team doesn't play well together, the team has to be rebuilt."

He spoke for 10 minutes, taking no questions. He said he had been contemplating retirement from politics since 1990, when a deranged woman stabbed him in the neck at a rally. "Ever since the assassination attempt I have been asking myself how much further I want to continue."

Mr Lafontaine parted emotionally, taking a side-swipe at. the government's suspect loyalties while passionately reaffirming his own. "There's something you should never forget," he said. "The heart isn't traded on the stock market yet, but it has a home. And it beats to the left."

The left heard him. After an emergency meeting yesterday the Social Democrats' youth wing demanded the resignation of Bodo Hombach, the Chancellor's fixer and the right's chief ideologue. That provoked recriminations from the other camp. Werner Müller, Economics Minister, and also close to Mr Schröder, rebutted the "poor teamwork" charge and came close to accusing Mr Lafontaine of incompetence

"A team is only as good as "you can work well with a flnance minister, provided he is well-prepared for his job".

German Blair

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# Heseltine and Clarke cleared to join pro-euro campaign

BY PAUL WAUGH AND SARAH SCHAEFER

MICHAEL HESELTINE and Kenneth Clarke are to join Britain's biggest ever pro-single currency campaign after William Hague gave his tacit permission for the move yes-

The two former cabinet ministers will throw their full weight behind the "Britain in Europe" group once elections for the European Parliament have been completed this sum-

The new organisation, which holds its first meeting in the City of London today, aims to persuade the public to vote "yes" in any forthcoming referendum on the euro.

The cross-party campaign will bring together MPs, businessmen and trade unionists to launch a nationwide publicity drive to counter the plethora of Euro-sceptic groups that have

Initially, more than 100,000 leaflets will be delivered in 125 towns and cities across the UK, followed by a £2m-a-year media hlitz including newspaper advertisements and billboard posters.

Lord Marshall, the former CBI president and current British Airways chairman, formaily launched the group yesterday when he confirmed the membership of its executive

Lord Hollick, the Labour peer and chief executive of and Mr Heseltine will sign up United News and Media, will





Heseltine and Clarke are likely to join the pro-euro group after the June elections

join Menzies Campbell, the Liberal Democrats' foreign affairs spokesman, and Ken Jackson, general secretary of the

AEEU, on the board. Lord Howe of Aberavon, the former Tory chancellor, is also on the board in the capacity of ment, but are certain to join an "observer" and is so far the after then. most senior Conservative involved in the campaign.

However The Independent understands that Mr Clarke after June's European elec-

tions and join Britain in Eu- to remain a broad church. "It rope's full council. Both men doesn't stop people being a Conhave decided to steer clear of explicit backing for the group before June in order to reduce Tory divisions ahead of the elections to the European Parlia-

Their involvement became even more likely yesterday after Mr Hague softened significantly his line on dissent from pro-European colleagues, stating that be wanted his party

servative just because they disagree on one policy. People are allowed to be Conservative without agreeing to 100 per cent of the policies," he told BBC's On the Record programme.

"I do not want to see MPs driven out of the Conservative Party or excluded from the Conservative Party. Those peonle are Conservatives."

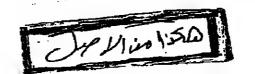
Britain in Europe will be the main challenger to the Euro-sceptic campaign funded by the Yorkshire businessman Paul Sykes.

In an attempt to outmanoeuvre the better funded "no" campaign, the pro-Europeans are to place features in women's magazines to list the benefits of the euro, explaining how a single currency would make everyday life more efficient. "Women are the driving forces in many families because they are often still responsible for the household and shopping," said a source close to the campaign.

"They have enormous influence over their families and if we can convince them, we are nearly there. Their euroscepticism is often a gut feeling and we have to present them with facts "

Lord Marshall, a crossbench peer, said yesterday: "We believe the euro will secure the best future for a modern Britain in a modern Europe: prosperous at home, strong in the European Union, proud in the world. This campaign aims to inform the British people about the single currency and convince them of the advantages to Britain of joining."

Other members of the Britain in Europe board announced yesterday are Colin Sharman, chief executive of KPMG International, Niall Fitzgerald, chairman of Unilever, and Judith Mayhew, chairman of the policy and resources committee of the Cor-



# Taliban pact signals end to civil war Blaze in Delhi

TWENTY YEARS of civil war in By JASON BURKE Afghanistan appeared to be in Islamabad nearing an end yesterday, after the country's warring factions agreed to share the government and work towards a permanent ceasefire.

Representatives of the Taliban militia and the opposition Northern Alliance said they had agreed to form a joint executive, legislature and judiciary and to release 20 prisoners each as a gesture of goodwill. The announcement was made in Ashkhabad, the capital of the former Soviet republic of Turkmenistan.

Mohammad Younus Qanouni, who led the opposition delegation, said he was optimistic that the next round of talks - to be held in Afghanistan itself – would result in a permanent end to hostilities.

The leader of the Taliban delegation, Mullah Wakil Ahmed Muttawakil, said that a lasting ceasefire would automatically follow the establishment of a shared power structure. "When we agree on the details and personnel of the government then we can agree to have a cease-

The agreement came as a surprise. Only last month the two sides were refusing even to talk to each other. Lengthy "talks about talks" broke up acrimoniously last year and were followed by some of the fiercest battles seen in Afghanistan for many years.

"It is very strange and very sudden," an aid worker said yesterday in Islamabad, the Pakistani capital.

"It seems to go against everything the Taliban has stood for since they started."

The Taliban have conquered nearly 90 per cent of Afghanistan in a five-year campaign and until now they had always seemed determined to impose their strict version of Islamic law on the entire country. Senior Taliban officials - largely drawn from the majority Sunni Muslim Pathan tribes - have repeatedly denounced the opposition, who are drawn from the country's religious and ethnic minorities, as "brigands and criminals".

Throughout the winter there has been fierce fighting as troops from the Northern Alliance, led by Ahmed Shah Massoud, the former defence minister and a hero of the war against the Soviet Union, have tried to win back ground lost to Taliban offensives last year.

The distrust between the two sides may yet sink the latest hopes for peace. In the five years since the Taliban hegan their campaigns, both sides have committed horrific human rights abuses.

Two years ago it was discovered that commanders from the Northern Alliance had executed thousands of Taliban prisoners by throwing them down wells. Last year the Taliban massacred as many as 5,000 Shia Muslims when they captured the key northern city of Mazar-e Sharif.

Much of Afghanistan has been devastated by 20 years of bin Laden. In spite of the good fighting. Mines cover the country's scarce agricultural land. The fighting has severely disrupted food distribution, causing severe local famines. one Pakistan-based diplomat.



Afghan Northern Alliance soldiers at an observation post on the Tagab front line, 46 miles north of Kabul

At the weekend the first United Nations personnel returned to Afghanistan since their evacuation last August, following the American missile strikes against targets linked to the alleged terrorist Osama news, experienced Afghanistan-watchers warned against euphoria. "We have been here many, many times before," said

AFGHANISTAN'S 20 YEARS OF BLOODSHED

1979: Moscow, scared by rising fundamentalism. invades Afghanistan to support its puppet regime. 1989: After suffering 30,000 casualties, the Russians withdraw. No one knows how many Afghans died but the total could be

close to half a million. 1992: Kabul falls to the Muslim Mujahedin, defeating the regime supported by Moscow. 1992-95: Within days, various factions are fighting each other. Over the next three years much of Kabul

is destroyed. Anarchy reigns as commanders set themselves up as warlords. 1994: The Taliban, a new movement devoted to establishing an Islamic state, sweep through the

1996: Aided by friends in

over Kabul. 1998: The Taliban capture

the key city of Mazar-e Sharif. The opposition falls apart leaving the Taliban In control of almost 90 per cent of the country.

Pakistan and Saudi Arabia -

the Taliban flag is hoisted

# kills 26

BY MARCUS TANNER

AT LEAST 26 people were killed, thousands were left homeless and many were trapped in the flames yesterday after fire raged through a slum district of Delhi.

A fire brigade spokesman said 35 fire engines were battling the fire, which was now under control.

"We can confirm 18 deaths. but the unofficial toll is higher." the spokesman said. "A long cluster along the river was affected. It could be around one kilometre or more."

The hiaze affected more than 1,000 huts in the Vijay Ghat area near the Yamuna river. The fire brigade found it difficult to move vehicles through the district's narrow lanes.

Indian news reports said 26 people died in the slum quarter. where there are about 50,000 huts. They quoted police as saying most of the hodies were found in a mosque.

Witnesses at a hospital said they counted 17 bodies. They also said people threw stones and damaged fire engines because they arrived long after the fire started in the slum, which is populated by rag-pickers and poor people who trade in junk and old newspapers.

They came more than two hours after the fire started. Many huts could have been saved," one resident said.

· The cause of the fire was not known, but some witnesses said they heard a loud cylinder blast which might have started it. Left-wing politicians in the city blamed sabotage by right-wing

The blaze broke out shortly before the start of a public meeting against a campaign to evict the slum-dwellers because they were illegal immigrants from Bangladesh.

The Communist politicians Hannan Mollah and Nilotpal Basu said: "We have strong reasons to believe that the fire might not he accidental as the spirit of the people galvanised by the meeting could have been a provocation for the vested interests, who would like to have these poor people

### Iraq executes eight for assassination of Shia clerics

IRAQ SAYS it has executed eight people charged with murdering leading clerics of the Shia Muslim faith, to which most Iraqis belong.

Gunmen have assassinated many prominent Shia leaders during the last five years in or around the holy city of An Najaf on the Euphrates where many of them lived.

Iraqi exiles say they were the victims of government death squads and the executions are

\*

BY PATRICK COCKBURN

an attempt to divert attention from the government's responsibility for the killings.

In a statement carried by all the Iraqi newspapers yesterday the General Directorate of Security said the men "were executed on 13 March ... after they were found guilty by the Iraqi authorities and were sentenced to capital punishment." The executions follow the

killing in an ambush of Ayatollah Mohammed Sadeq al-Sadr in Najaf last month.

His death triggered rioting in Shia towns in Iraq, which were bloodily quelled by the security forces. Iraqi troops are reported to have sealed off Najafin the last few days. The executed men confessed

to killing two other leading ayatoliahs last year: Mutarda Bujerdi and Ali al-Gharawi. Both were shot in separate attacks.

They are also alleged to have heavily policed by the security admitted to trying to kill Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani, another leading Shia cleric, in 1996, He was not hit hut one other person died in the shooting. The men were not charged with the

murder of Ayatollah al-Sadr. The endemic use of torture in Iraqi prisons means confessions are easily extracted.

The Shia holy cities of An Najaf, Al Kufah and Karbala in the mid-Euphrates region are

services. It is unlikely that any gang of assassins could operate there except on government orders.

Although more than a hun-

dred Shia clergy disappeared during a Shia uprising of 1991, the present assassination campaign against the clerics only started in 1993.

It is probably motivated by Saddam Hussein's belief that the popularity of the Shia clergy

posed a threat to his regime. Ayatollah al-Sadr have been arrested over the last month and religious organisations he established dismantled.

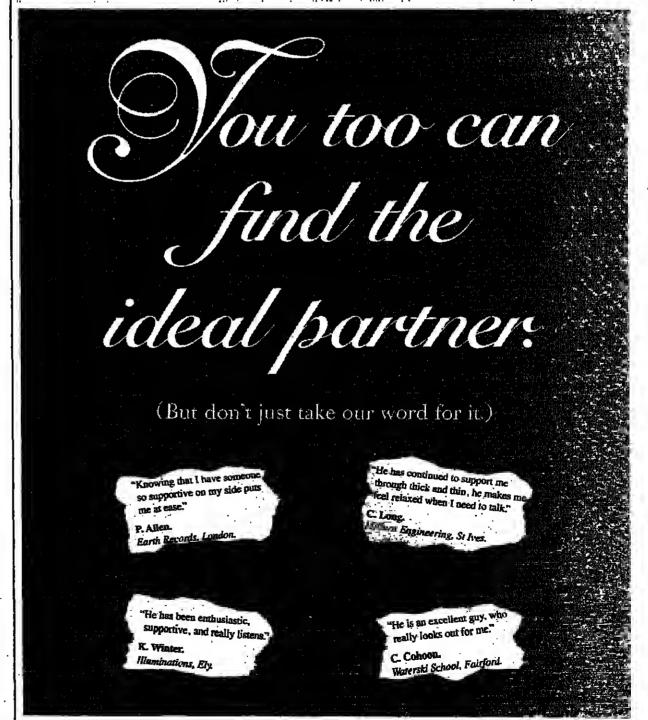
There are reports of scattered guerrilla action in Shia areas of southern Iraq carried out by the Supreme Council for the Islamic Revolution in Iraq, which is based in Iran. This may iodicate that Iran is more willing to let guerrillas cross its bor-

Religious leaders loyal to make headway against the government's overwhelming military superiority. President Saddam's deter-

mination to dispose of all possible resistance leaders may have been strengthened by the growing confrontation with the US and Britain, Diplomats in Baghdad say that the low-level air war by the allies against Traci air defences may be causing less damage than claimed.



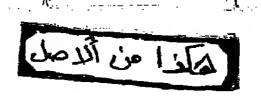
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# Hapless Gore seeks degree of credibility

VICE-PRESIDENT AL Gore By MARY DEJEVSKY takes a day-long swing through in Washington the key election states of New Hampshire and Iowa today, in an effort to narrow the gap that has already opened up between himself and leading Republican

Although Mr Gore has only one declared rival for the Democratic nomination in next year's presidential race, Bill Bradley the impelies that has already built up behind two of to make gaffes. And while he the 10 Republican contenders. has been working hard to remespecially George W Bush of Texas, is worrying state Democratic Party organisations.

Polls show Mr Bush leading Mr Gore by almost two to one and forecast that if an election were held now not only Mr Bush, but the second favoured Republican candidate, Elizabeth Dole, could beat him.

These are, of course, early days, and Mr Gore's potential Unless his position looks hope-

less, he will have behind him the full weight of the Democratic Party machine. So long as Bill Clinton's popularity is sustained, he will also have the campaigning might of the President on his side - and Mr Clin-

ton wants his loyal lieutenant to

get the best possible start.

But Al Gore has a tendency edy two of his long-standing defects - his difficulties in "connecting" with the voters and his "woodenness" in public, the bad luck that he makes himself

may prove harder to overcome. Last week Mr Gore presented two populist policy initiatives from the White House, flanked by the top experts in the field. He talked about measures to reduce traffic congesto raise campaign funds is vast. tion. He introduced proposals for simpler and clearer

stituency of pensioners). He also had an extended interview on the cable network, CNN.

Then he blew it all by claiming to have been the impetus behind the Internet. Mr Gore might have been justified in claiming to have supported, even promoted, the Internet from the time he was a Senator. But to have been the impetus behind it, or invented it? The response was ridicule.

The Republican Majority leader in the Senate, Trent his handling of the China spy al-Lott, sent out a spoof circular claiming to have invented the paper clip which, he said, had proved a force for "unity". Dick Armey, the Majority leader in the House, said that he could claim to have invented the national motorway system.

Al Gore's Internet gaffe will go down in the annals next to said responsibility for investi-the occasion when, the day gating security breaches restafter a nationally-watched bas-

labelling on medicines (a pre- kethall game, he spoke of Michoccupation of the growing con- ael Jackson, when he meant the haskethall player, Michael Jordan. It fed the comedy talk shows for nights on end.

Mr Gore's position as vicepresident, his capacity to raise funds and his political lineage. mean that his nomination is virtually assured. But gaffes like these raise doubts at the grassroots level not just about his political skill, but about whether, if nominated, he can win. The US National Security Ad-

viser, Sandy Berger, defended legations yesterday insisting he had acted swiftly to address the likelihood that secrets had been stolen from the Los Alamos National Laboratory in the Eighties. Mr Berger said spending on counter-intelligence at the lab had been increased many times over between 1995 and now, but gating security breaches rested with the FBI and the CIA.



Vice-President Al Gore: his latest gaffe is to claim to have been the impetus behind the Internet

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# Californians split on three strikes law

BARBARA BROOKS is the sort of person who should approve of tough sentencing for criminals. She is a Christian from the Republican right who lives in California's Orange County, one of the most conservative areas in the country.

But a month ago her son was sentenced to 25 years in prison under California's "threestrikes" law, which hands down severe penalties for repeat offenders. Mrs Brooks's son, whose run-ios with the law have been due to drug addiction, will spend the next quartercentury behind bars because he ran away from a group of police officers while under the influence of amphetamines.

Five years after the pasgrowing chorus of ordinary citizens is questioning the justice and effectiveness of such tough sentencing.

roughly half of the nation's 50 states - but California introof the toughest, after the 1992 Los Angeles riots and a crime criminals. wave largely linked to the post-Cold War economic recession.

In California the third offence, which triggers a minimum 25-year sentence without parole, can be as minor as stealing a slice of pizza. In one notorious case, the offender had shoplifted a bottle of vita-

one of a crowd of protesters who marched in Orange County and elsewhere to demand a softening of "three strikes" to mark the law's fifth anniversary. A report published by a criminal justice think-tank in San Democrats and Republicans, Francisco also claimed there was no link between the law and a drop in violent crime.

The report said counties where "three strikes" is rigor- long sentences.

BY ANDREW GUMBEL

in Los Angeles

ously enforced - Los Angeles, Orange and San Diego in the hottom third of the state - have seen a slower drop in crime than counties where "three strikes" is applied occasional-

ly or not at all. The data contradicts the claims by the state's political leaders, Pete Wilson, California's Republican governor until the beginning of this year, and his Attorney General both said three strikes was crucial to the drop in violent crime.

Mr Wilson's successor, the Democrat Gray Davis. also backs three strikes - a position dictated by the tough-on-crime sage of the three-strikes law, a sensibilities of the Californian electorate.

State officials point out that the murder rate has fallen by 51 per cent over the past five who have committed violent crimes are coming into Caliduced one of the first, and one fornia. This suggests the threestrikes law deters career

Several studies, however, have shown that of the roughly 40,000 prisoners sentenced under three strikes, a disturbingly high proportion have a history of drug abuse, not violence.

James P Gray, an Orange County Superior Court judge. who joined this week's protests, Last week, Mrs Brooks was said: "Every time a Congressman's child gets caught with drugs, they want treatment for him. Every time someone else's child gets caught, they want prison for them."

Some state legislators, both are keen at least to modify the law - to make sure the third offence is a really serious one before handing down irrevocable.

### **IMRE KARACS**



To be or not to be Blairite - that is the question in Germany

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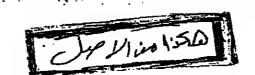
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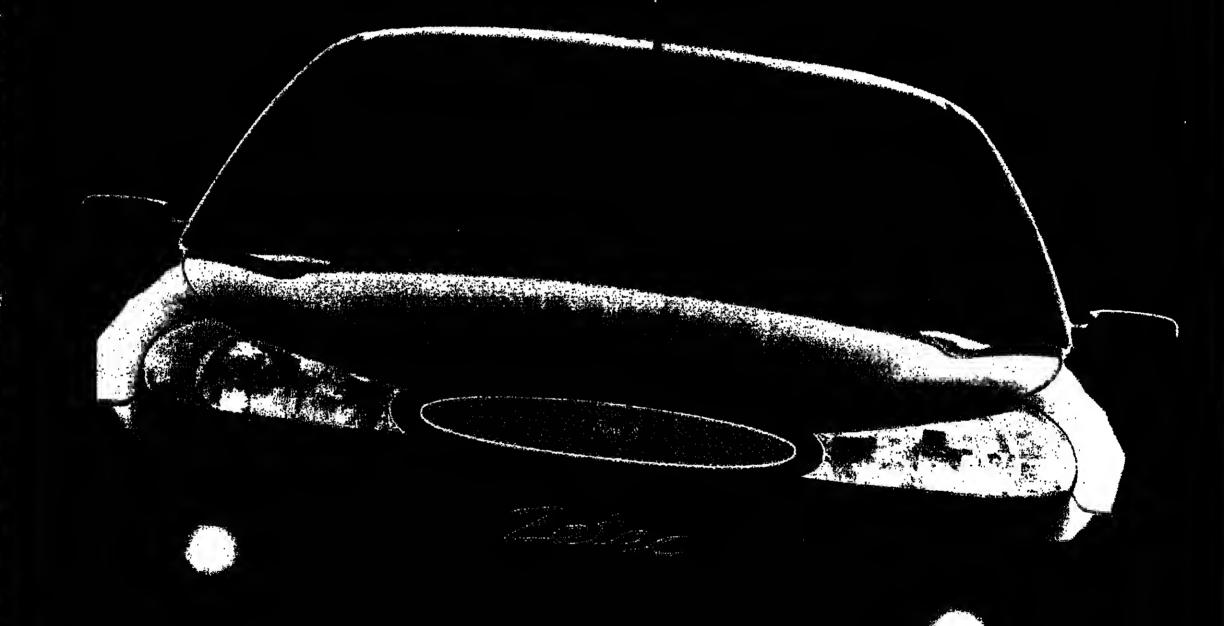
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for a perfectly smooth drive, look no further than the new mondeo zetec, as well as absorbing almost all vibrations, the suspension incorporates a passive rear wheel steering effect, designed to increase driver's confidence with reassuring stability, you'll also be pleased to hear that we've lowered engine noise levels by 50%, of course, superb performance is matched by superb control, and now the mondeo zetec comes with optional new generation 4 channel mecatronic abs brakes with advanced dual mode traction control. standard equipment includes:

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the new mondeo zetec £15,380 on the road.



The adjoing to CHE.

## Martyred by a nation, missed by just one man

ISRAEL CALLED it an "error", and the world forgot. In the days that followed the killing of Mohamed Othman's wife and six of his children, no television four-year-old Ali, nine-year-old crews trooped up the mouncrews trooped up the moun-

But after the Israeli jets bombed his tent and destroyed his family at Janta just before Christmas, the Hizbollah fired a few rockets back at Israel and Israel warned of retaliation against Lebanon and Syria if such "terrorism" continued. That's what the television boys were keen to report. Heightened tension in the Middle

So much, then, for 40-yearchildren; one-year old Sobhi.

FRONT LINE RAIT, EASTERN LEBANON

tainside of eastern Lebanon to and Amini, 17. Israeli spokesin erview the gr.ef-stricken man David Bar-Ilan said it was bothered to talk to him about "mistake" when the Israeli jets fired two air-to-ground missiles into their home. Just as Israel apologised for the "mistake" of bombing a house in the Lebanese town of Nabatea five years ago (killing 13) and for the "tragic error" of the Qana massacre two years later when Israeli artillerymen slaughtered 106 Lebanese refugees.

When I approach the ramshackle tent to which Mohamed Othman has moved with his old Nadwa Othman and her six surviving 14-year-old son Ala'e from school in Janta. I had on the hillsides above the frosty

little village of Rait, be shakes his head in near-disbelief. No one from the outside world had

His new borne is the same as his old home: two dozen canvas sacks sewn together, laid over providing a dark inner sanctum over which the wind howis. He is wearing a brown robe and a red-and-white keffiyeh bead-dress and he kneels on the floor to tell his story.

"Ala'e was in the fields near

to talk to a friend on the road. our bome with our sheep and I I told my eldest son Amini to take the other children home. had gone to get the three eldest After about a quarter of an bought some food to break our

fast for our litar meal - it was "I ran towards my home to Ramadan then - and I stopped be there so that my wife and children wouldn't be frightened. I must have been a kilometre away and I saw the planes right above the tent and

planes. Out of fright, I ran off the road and threw myself on the ground. The impact of the missiles was so enormous that the ground shook and I was hurled into the air and down again and

"I woke in a hospital bed to find some Lebanese asking me how many children I had. Then I knew they had died." Ala'e survived, though Mo-

hamed's 200 sheep were killed by the hlast of the Israeli missiles. It was Ala'e wbo reached the two scorched craters on the hillside. "They were all killed at once," Mohamed Othman says. He found the bodies of his mother and brothers and sisters all on fire. There wasn't much left of them." Mohamed Othman accompanied their few remains back

to his native village of Tufail close to the Syrian border where he had grown up with Nadwa and made an arranged marriage with the woman when she was 20. "I haven't put any stones over their graves yet but when I do, I shall write the word 'martyr' on each one." Mr Othman says. "What else can I Draped along the wall of his tent is a sheet upon which vil-

lagers have painted two Israeli planes dropping a bomb on a shack. In the sky above, the faces of his wife and six children appear, with crude angels' wings painted on each side of them, Mohamed Othman is obviously proud of the picture, So what did the Israelis think

they were bombing on 22 December 1998?

A mile away, down a narrow ravine on the other side of Janta, there is a Hizbollah training camp. It had been bombed before, many times. So had the T-junction outside the camp. A smashed armoured personnel carrier still lies in

hroken trees beside It. But the impact craters of the missiles that killed Mohamed Othman's family - and the few scraps of cloth from his tent home - are almost a mile away, on a narrow. lane beside an unfinished building. This was an "error" on a massive scale for a jet fighter with computerised targeting

It didn't matter. Typical of the international coverage of this dreadful deed was that of Canadian television which began its report with pictures of the Hizbollah's exploded rockets in northern Israel, an account of injured Israelis (they suffered shock and cuts - there were no deaths) and a sound-hite from the Israeliprime minister, Benjamin Netanyahu, vowing revenge for a "terrorist" action. Only then and briefly - did the CBC news show a clip of the Othman family's funeral with just a mention of what provoked the Hizbollah rocket fire. The report ended with more threats hy Israel to retaliate for "ter-

rorism". I asked Mohamed Othman what be thought of all this. He sat for a long time on the red rug of his tent and looked towards the light coming through a crack in the old sacks. "Each person must be accountable to his conscience," the shepherd

"I still go to the graves every day when I am in my village and I talk to my wife and children. I say to them "God have mercy on you - and may you live in

ROBERT FISK

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Mohamed Othman with the portraits painted by villagers of his wife and children who died in an Israeli missile attack

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### Angola rebels close to seizing key town

REBEL FORCES were said to be BY ANDREW SELSKY closing on a strategic town in Angola yesterday, endangering food shipments to tens of thousands of refugees. With rential rains. reports that Unita rebels were as close as 25 miles from Kuito, government authorities have told aid workers to leave the central Angolan town.

The focus on Kuito, the capital of Bie province, comes as the United Nations prepared to abandon its peacekeeping mission in Angola after civil war reignited last December. The World Food Pro-

gramme, which is feeding hundreds of thousands of refugees in the vast south-west African country, has already evacuated its non-essential staff from In addition, one Red Cross

delegate left and another remained, the International Committee of the Red Cross, said in Geneva. The WFP is airlifting corn, beans, cooking oil and other supplies to 55,000 people in Kuito, most of them The unpaved roads to the

town are usually impassable because of fighting and tor-Aid workers say if fighting

hits Kuito, its airport could be closed, cutting off the town from food supplies. The population of Kuito, 360 miles south-east of the capital

Luanda doubled to autovo months ago as villagers fied months ago as villagers fied in the countryside between government forces and the rebels. The United Nations Security Council voted on 26 February to close the UN peacekeeping mission in Angola, saying there was no more peace to keep

after a 20-year civil war resumed. The council called for the phasing out of the UN Observer Mission in Angola by next Saturday. Kofi Annan, UN Secretary-General, cautioned against blaming the United Nations for the mission's failure, saying the government and the rebel

group Unita must bear re-

sponsibility. (AP)

### IN BRIEF

### Death-camp chief back on trial

THE TRIAL of Dinko Sakic, 77, the only known living commandant of a Nazi-era death camp is set to reconvene today after a 10-day delay brought about by his ill health. Sakic commanded the Jasenovac concentration camp run by Croatia's wartime Nazi puppet state. He was extradited from Argentina last June.

### Store fire may be 'revenge attack'

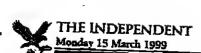
TURKISH POLICE said a department store may have been set alight to avenge the capture of the Kurdish leader Abdullah Ocalan. Thirteen people died in the blaze on Saturday. Since Mr Ocalan's capture last month Turkey has witnessed a sharp increase in violence.

### Ethiopia accused of border attack

ERITREA ACCUSED Ethiopia of launching a major offensive, with infantry, tanks, artillery and aircraft, on the border between the two countries in the Horn of Africa, The border dispute first erupted into fighting last May. Last month Eritrea accepted an Organisation of African Unity peace plan.

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# BUSINESS

### **BRIEFING**

### Kuwait agrees to cut oil output most is the carlandamy of

KUWAIT'S OIL MINISTER said the country could cut its oil output by about 144,000 barrels per day from next month as just of a new initiative by the world's oil producers to boost prices. Sheik Saud Nasser al-Sabah, addressing the Ruwaiti parliament, said the agreement "was not final yet" and would not be ratified until the Opec meeting in Vienna on 23 March. Kuwait, which produced 1.99 million barrels a day in February, made two oil output cuts totalling 225,000 barrels per day in 1998 under agreements which failed to

### BA enjoys millennium boost



BRITISH AIRWAYS has enjoyed a millennium airlift. with bookings over the period up by 150 per cent on the same time last year.

Nearly half a million seats have been booked on its flights. The most popular destinations are New York, Los Angeles, Johannesburg and Barbados. Bob Ayling. BA's chief executive (pictured), said the

bookings underlined public confidence in flying over the millennium period, despite concerns over the impact of the year 2000 computer bug. Last week Thomson Holidays said Benidorm was its most popular millennium destination.

### Cross-border retailing on the rise EUROPEAN retailing will become an increasingly

international business as companies take advantage of European integration, a new survey says. According to a report by Retail Intelligence, cross-border activity will become increasingly common as shown by the expansion in Germany by Wal-Mart of the US. The survey says Wal-Mart could target Britain and that with turnover of \$130bn it could afford to buy Tesco, the market leader, rather than Asda.

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	nd (punts)	1.0977	Thalland (bahts)	55.0
	in (rupees)	61.97		54189
-	il (shekels)	6.1266	USA (5)	1.580
	(Hra)	2715		
	n (yen)	181.17	Rates for Indication purp	oses o
	ysia (ringgits)	5.9239		

### THE OFFICE of Fair Trading will make legal history this week when it starts a High Court ac-

tion against a subsidiary of Abbey National over its interest charges on hire purchase agree-

The OFT is suing First National Bank, which was acquired by Abbey National four years ago, over a "standard contrac-tual term" the firm uses in HP agreements used by customers to buy consumer items such as

washing machines and fridges. The OFT wants the bank to hange a clause which allows it to keep charging interest to cus-tomers who have already gone to court to show they cannot keep up payments. Use of the

BY JOHN WILLCOCK

clause can mean debts continue to grow even after a court has judged them to be unaffordable. It is the first time the OFT has

one to court under legislation introduced in 1995 to enable tha regulator to negotiate with companies over consumer contracts that it regards as unfair. First National has refused the

OFT's request to change its particular contract terms, and is determined to fight the OFT in A spokeswoman for the OFT

said on Friday. "This is the first time we have ever gone to court on this legislation. This is a big

The legislation concerned is the Unfair Terms in Consumer Contracts Regulations 1994. The row is centred on an obscure legal term interest after judgement", which affects millions of

people who take out consumer

loans to buy goods in high street

**OFT** sues First National over HP loans

First National has three million customers and provides loans through intermediaries such as high street stores for people buying household goods. The loans are usually at or near credit card rates.

The OFT has been trying since last year, following a number of complaints from consumers, to get First National to change the clause.

a County Court Judgement in the cases concerned, they have usually specified that the customers should pay a lesser, regular payment to First National, such as

However, under the "interest fter judgement" clause in First National's contracts. First National has been able to continue charging interest on the customer's loan even after the court

has passed judgement. In other words, the interest will continue to accumulate, while the customer is only paying a reduced amount. Therefore the customer will never pay off the debt, which will continue to grow in perpetuity.

said "We have been trying to negotiate with First National to change these terms. They have refused to do so. Therefore we have issued them with a writ. We have changed over 3,000 terms since [the legislation in 1995] so

We hope to get an injunction to have these unfair clauses removed," she added.

it's a big deal for us.

The two parties will attend the High Court in the Strand on Wednesday for a preliminary hearing. First National last Friday made clear its determi-

The Abbey National subsidiary said: "The bank's case is

nation to fight the OFT appli-

that the term which keeps interest running after a court judgement has been obtained is not in any way unfair."

Phillip George, the managing director of First National, said: "Customers taking consumer finance necessarily pay interest. The OFT in challenging the effect of this clause, is preferring customers who don't pay in favour of those who pay regularly

and on time. "The basis of their argument would allow non-payers who have a court judgement against them to cease paying interest on the money they owe to the bank,

# **Credit** Lyonnais float gets go-ahead

THE FRENCH government officially launched the privatisation of Credit Lyonnais yesterday, signalling the end of a long-running saga which began with an amhitious strategy to

In a decree published in France's Official Journal, the government authorised the sale and said the flotation end of June, after clearance from state regulators. In an effort to under write the de Paris.

bank's stability, the govern-. group of core shareholders. The core group will pledge to

retain their stakes for a specified length of time. They will each be able to own up to 10 per cent of the bank, although together they will hold less than a blocking minority of the This avoids a straight auc-

tion, which could have seen Credit Lyonnais swallowed up by either a French of foreign group, analysts said. This ensures Credit Lyon- posals.

nais' independence, at least at the outset, and will allow it to live on, something that was not so sure a couple of months or years ago," one analyst said. Several rival banks, including Credit Acricole, the big co-

THE UNITED STATES WILL CON-

sider raising the thresholds for

mergers that must be notified

to its competition authorities,

easing the way for takeover ac-

Washington has been in-

policy over the last few years,

taking on the software giant Mi-

crosoft, for instance. But the

government has previously in-

dicated that it wants that ac-

tivity to be focussed on a few big

issues rather than policing the

· The latest proposal was put

broad mass of mergers.

BY ANDREW VERITY

operative bank, have already expressed interest in becoming core shareholders.

Allianz, the German insurbecome Europe's largest bank ance giant, and Axe, its French but ended with government rival, have also expressed an in-

The privatisation comes at a turbulent time for the French banking industry, currently embroiled in the merger of should be ready towards the Paribas and Société Générale, and a hostile bld for both of them from Banque Nationale

Before making its hostile ment will keep a 10 per cent bid, BNP first sought to forge stake in the bank and set up a a "partnership of equals" with Credit Lyonnais. Its hostile bid was reportedly prompted by the government's refusal to change

Jean Peyrelevade, head of Credit Lyonnais, held talks with Michel Pebereau, the head of BNP about a possible merger. But a tie-up would have entailed numerous branch closures where BNP and Lyonnais share a high street-a politically difficult task in France. Mr Peyrelevade rejected the pro-

Daniel Bouton, head of Paribas, yesterday attacked BNP's \$38bn (£24bn) bid in an interview with the French newspaper Journal du Di-

He warned the deal would

BY ANDREW MARSHALL

hearings last week Jacet Reno,

the US Attorney General, wel-

comed the proposal and said

staff, including Joel Klein, head

to Mr Klein," she said at the

The Hart Scott Rodino law.

which is one of the basic US an-

titrust laws, was passed in 1976,

of the antitrust division.

in Washington

creasingly active in competition she would discuss it with her

forward by Orrin Hatch, a lead-requiring pre-notification for

ing Senator and chairman of the mergers above certain thresh-



Credit Lyonnais' London office: Privatisation signals the end of a long-running saga

lead to massive job losses as a condition of allowing France to foreign rivals. He added he would use "all possible solutions" to thwart the bid. The privatisation of Credit

Lyonnais, a one-time national champion, was insisted on by the European Commission as

olds. Companies must give ad-

vance notice if the net annual

sales or total assets of one

and the other is over \$100m, and

securities and assets in the

been changed in 23 years, and

in these parameters than would

have been intended 20 years

ago. Mr Hatch said the com-

mittee planned hearings to as-

sess how the rules might be

These thresholds have not

deal are over \$15m.

Senate Judiciary Committee, at company involved is over \$10m

the antitrust division. the combination of inflation "It sounds like a very good and the rising global pace of

suggestion and I'd like to talk merger activity means that to Mr Klein," she said at the many more deals now fall with-

BNP sold parts of the business to arrange a bail-out package. The French government spent billions of francs reconstructing Credit Lyomais after it built up a huge volume of bad

debts in the 1980s. The near collapse followed e

period of reckless lending Europe.

of MGM, the Hollywood studio. The debts were built up as part of an ambitious expansion encouraged by the then president, François Mitterand, who

### US may ease merger rules |Longbridge fate could be decided this week

bridge plant could be decided this week when the superviso-

ry board of BMW meets on Timursday to consider the British Government's aid package, writes Nigel Cope.
Although it is a routine meeting to decide financial details

such as the group's dividend pay-ments, BMW will use it to review Longbridge's position if it receives a Government offer in time. Speculation at the weekend suggested the Government will offer £180m towards the £1.5bn cost of transforming the

THE FATE of Rover's Long- Longbridge plant in the West

If this level of funding is provided, it should be sufficient to

ensure the replacement for Rover's 200 and 400 series is built in Britain and not in a lower-cost economy such as Hungary. The core of the range would

be a Golf-sized model with a production output of around 350,000 cars a year. The new mini would also be produced at the plant, However, a Rover spokesman said yesterday a decision on Longbridge could drift into next

### while paying customers contin-ue to pay interest on their loans until repaid in full." **Telewest**

raises

BY PETER THAL LARSEN

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stakes in

Internet

market

TELEWEST, the cable operator, is poised to raise the stakes in the highly competitive Internet market later this year by abandoning perminute usage charges for its high-speed Internet access

Telewest is currently drawing up detailed plans for the service, which is due to be launched in the final quarter of the year.

However, one likely feature is that customers will pay only a flat monthly subscription charge, which allows them to stay online as long as they

The service will have the added advantage of offering Internet access at up to 40times the speed of conventional telephone modems by using Telewest's local cable

Tony Illsley, Telewest's new chief executive, is thought to be impressed with the success of similar US products such as Road Runner and At Home Networks.

Both services, which have signed up hundreds of thousands of users, offer highspeed Internet access for a flat monthly fee.

Telewest's move will increase the pressure on Internet service providers such as Freeserve, the service launched by Dixons, to cut

their call charges. Free Internet service providers have taken the market by storm in the past six months by abandoning monthly subscription charges. But users still have to pay local call

spend online. Last week Oftel, the telecoms watchdog, challenged existing service providers to offer cheaper call rates. British Telecom is currently adapting its billing system to allow service providers to sub-

sidise the cost of calls.

charges for each minute they

Meanwhile, X-Stream, the innovative service provider which pioneered Freeserve model a year ago, is currently experimenting with a totally free service.

Each weekend this month the service, which makes money by streaming advertising along the bottom of its Internet browser software, is offering users the chance to access the Internet for nothing by dialling up through an 0800 number.

### You can be sure of Shell's efforts to be ethical

BY MICHAEL HARRISON **Business Editor** 

SHELL'S PROFITS may be tumbling and its chairman's job may be on the line, but at least the group's efforts to stamp ont bribery and corruption among its 100,000strong workforce and raise the ethical standards of its contractors are beginning to

The oil giant's latest Report



ployees who were sacked for contractors axed for failing to soliciting bribes fell last year heed Shell's general state-There has also been a ment of business principles. Stiell caught and sacked 23 decline in the number of

staff for soliciting or accepting bribes in 1997. Most of the offences took place in Nigeria. Shell's social accountability

while the number of contrac- forums". tors sacked was down from 95 in 1997 to about 60. \$25m into its campaign to

This year Shell is pumping convince the world that it is serious about issues such as human rights, sustainable wrong" to put profits before development, business honesty, care for the environ-

ment and safe working. The tion this year is going into press advertising campaign, Mark Wade, the head of a direct mail shot to tens of thousands of opinion-formteam, said the level of dis- ers around the world, and a added. missals last year was lower, series of "stakeholder

> After last year's 90 per cent plunge in profits and just another cheap fix". \$4.5bn of write-offs, Mark Moody-Stuart, the chairman of Shell, said it would have been "very easy but also very

While much of our atten-

initiative will feature a \$16m making the business more profitable, this is not an excuse to neglect our longerterm responsibilities," he Mr Wade conceded that

some critics would see the campaign as "PR gloss and However, he said Shell was

determined to address the concerns of a 10 per cent minority who viewed it as lacking respect for human rights, the environment and

New Analysis: The UK's biggest shopping centre opens tomorrow. Does the ailing sector need it?

# Bluewater's ripple effect on retail

BY NIGEL COPE **Associate City Editor** 

WHEN THE Bluewater shopping centre opens its doors to shoppers near Dartford tomorrow it will become Britain's ninth regional mega-mall.

It will also be Britain's biggest, nudging ahead of rivals such as the Metro Centre on Tyneside, Merryhill in Dudley and two centres that opened last year, the Trafford Centre near Manchester and C. lbbs Causeway near Bristol. In total it will add another 1.5 million sq ft of retail selling space, the equivalent of almost two new branches of Harrods

Shoppers will no doubt flock to this latest mammoth on the motorway. They will be mesmerised by the 320 shops spread across three themed areas - the Guildhall for "the discerning shopper", the Rose Gallery devoted to "family focus", and the Thames Walk with high street fashion shops, cafes and bars.

As well as visiting the three anchor stores, John Lewis. House of Fraser and Marks & Spencer, weary shoppers will be able to re-charge their batteries in the leisure areas which include a 12-screen cinema and the Water Circus. This area includes a man-made lake where customers can try their hand at boating, ice-skating and cycling. In addition, there are 13,000 carparking spaces and a 200-space creche in which to park the

But does Britain's beleaguered retail sector need another gigantic, US-style mall? With the sector already suffering from chronic over-supply and retailers still licking their wounds after one of the worst trading years in recent memory, will Bluewater not exacerbate those problems?

the Australian Lend Lease Corporation, say not. They point to the fact that the £350m mall has been fully let since grossly over-stocked. September, a rarity for such developments. Demand has been strong, analysts say, despite retail rents among the highest in the country.

But the issue of over-supply, as opposed to weak consumer demand, has tended to be overlooked in the consumer spending debate. UK retailers spent the latter part of last year com-



The Bluewater shopping centre, near Dartford, has 320 shops, cafes, bars and cinemas and a man-made lake which offers ice-skating and boating

weak sales. But a look at the official sales data for the year shows that 1998 retail volumes rose by 2.9 per cent on 1997. Sales by value were ahead by a very respectable 4 per cent. Every part of the retail sector, department stores, clothing and footwear and household goods,

showed increases.

It is true that one of the problems last year was that many retailers based their autumn ordering on retail de-The developers of Bluewater, mand in the spring when consumer confidence was high. When that demand evaporated in October, shops were left

But the amount of new shopping space coming on stream received less attention. Two massive new regional malls opened last year the Trafford Centre and Cribbs Causeway, as well as a host of smaller openings. There will be more of the same this year with Bluewater being joined by two large centres in Glasgow - in Braehead and at plaining endlessly about van- Buchanan Galleries. In shopping

centres and on the high street most major retailers have still been expanding their store portfolios while complaining about the supply-side problems.

Space has grown faster than spending though not as much as in the US," says George Wallace. chief executive of Management Horizons, the retail consultancy.

Clive Vaughan at Retail Intelligence agrees that Britain is "over-shopped". But he points out that retail space per head of population is still four or fivetimes greater in the US than it

Bluewater, Dartford

Merryhill, Dudley

Trafford Centre

Lakeside, Thurrock

Meadowhall, Sheffield

Brent Cross, N London

Cribbs Causeway, Bristol

White Rose Centre, Leeds

MetroCentre, Gateshead

is here. "That supply-demand issue is one of the reasons prices tend to be lower there," he says. But if the UK retail sector is over-supplied and demand is

rising only gradually, why do retailers flock to sign up to these high-cost centres where their profit margins are wafer thin. The answer, experts say, is that consumers love them. They like the ease of access,

parking and the range of shops. They like the added leisure facilities and the "entertainment". They are also re-assured by the

323

260

276

285

Retail Space

155,669

144,924

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76,364

65.030

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security. Malls such as Bluewater are patrolled by security guards, filmed by closed circuit television and designed to minimise dark spots in car parks and

As Nathan Cockrell, a retail analyst at BT Alex Brown, says: There are barriers to entry to these places. You need a car to get to them and they are safe. Subconsciously retailers and sumers respond to that."

The history of these centres also suggests that they have found a successful formula and

BRITAIN'S BIGGEST REGIONAL SHOPPING CENTRES

Location: off the M25 near

Number of shops: 320

Dartford, Kent

Anchor Stores: John Lewis, House of Fraser, Marks & Estimated valaue: £1.1bn Developer; Lend Lease. Corporation, Australia Leisure Facilities: 40 restaurants, 12-screen cinema have traded well even though two of them, Meadowhall in Sheffield and Thurrock in Lakeside, opened in the teeth of the last recession. As Richard Hyman at Verdict, the retail consultants, says: "These regional centres tend to do well because they are environments people are comfortable in."

the UK's nine regional mails

They do not benefit everyone, of course. For retailers the costs associated with entry can be so high as to make profits difficult to achieve. Prime rents at Bluewater are the same as prime high street space in Manchester or Birmingham, though half the cost on London's Oxford Street.

But as Mr Cockrell says, retailers are "falling over themselves" to get into these new centres because there are fewer of them in the development pipeline. Centres like Bluewater were first conceived in 1990, before the government started to crack down on out-of-town shopping centres and their impact on due to open this year, there will share from is harder to say."

left on the stocks. Retailers will then be left to grow profits from existing stores or "in-fill" store openings in smaller retail locations. Mr Cockrell predicts a retail advertising hlitz as shops attempt to woo customers with special promotions as the new space pipeline closes off. The other potential losers are the local towns and shopping

be hardly any new mega-mails

centres around Bluewater. Analysts say that surrounding towns like Dartford and Bromley and smaller high streets in South-east London will be affected. Another potential loser is Lakeside, the mega-mall just across the Thames in Essex Some experts have said that Lakeside has been losing some trade even before Bluewater has opened and that the new mall will lure away shoppers from Kent towns such as

Sevenoaks. As Nick Bubb at SG Securities says: "Bluewater should succeed; all these regional cenlocal high streets. After the few tres do. But where it will take its

### IN BRIEF

**Eastern profits** up by 12%

EASTERN ELECTRICITY, the utilities group which was taken over by Texas Utilities last May, has reported n 12 per cent increase in underlying profits to £450m for the year to December The company said it had signed up more than a million gas customers, with 300,000 electricity custom signed Paul Marsh. Eastern's finance director. said the group was on target to achieve 5 million gas and electricity customers nationwide. It has also opened offices in Paris. Stockholm, Prague and Warsaw. Group turnover rose by 13 per cent to £3.7bn.

### **Duniopilio** ahead

DUNLOPILLO, the former BTR subsidiary which makes latex for mattresses and pillows, has produced a set of wide-awake figures for last year showing profits up 10 per cent to £4.6m. Th. Afgares were helped by a 23 ner rise in UK bed sales. 1 ms included strong demand for electrically adjustable beds retailing for up to £4,000. Harrogate-based Dunlopillo was a management buy-out from BTR two years ago. Sales last year rose 9 per cent to £25.25m.

**Esprit growth** 

ESPRIT HOLDINGS, the Hong Kong-based retailer which took a secondary listing in London in December, has reported a 17 per cent increase in net profits to HK\$166.4m. European profits grew hy 11 per cent. The company said it had taken the secondary listing in London to underline its commitment to Europe which now accounts for two thirds of group sales.

### S&N expands

SCOTTISH & Newcastle is planning to invest around £150m in an expansion of its. leisure division over the next two years. The group wants to create a chain of City Limits venues which incorporate restaurants, bowling alleys, sports bars and gyms. A pilot City Limits has been running in Romford, Essex. A chain of around 15 is planned.

Smart response DAIMLERCHRYSLER said sales of its troubled Smart two-seater town car are picking up after a sluggish start, dismissing a report that it is reducing output to counter weak demand. The company is shutting its factory in Hambach for two weeks before Easter as part of a move to a 35-hour week but denied it has lowered its sales target to 80,000 from 100,000. It originally targeted sales of 140.000 this year.The Smart car has been mired in a series of mishaps since before it hit the showrooms. Its introduction was delayed last year after it was found to

### BA faces inter-union row as cabin crew join AEEU

BRITISH AIRWAYS faces a dam- By BARRIE CLEMENT aging inter-union row after thousands of cabin crew decided to join the Amalgamated Engineering and Electrical Union.

Members of the non-TUC affiliated Cahin Crew '89 voted overwhelmingly to merge with the AEEU, which until recently had no stewards and stewardesses in membership.

The amalgamation means that the engineering union will be at loggerheads with the **Transport and General Workers'** Union, the traditional organisation for cabin crew and the largest union at BA.

Leaders of the transport

at BA's cut-price airline GO. having been selected by management following a "beauty contest" between unions.

pelled from the TUC for trespassing on its territory.

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Cabin crew '89 was set up by union are already angry with the members of the transport union

AEEU for winning recognition who said they wanted a more "moderate" organisation to represent them and one which concentrated only on stewards and stewardesses. The non-TUC The TGWU may now call for union claims a membership of the engineering union to be ex- 5,500 who voted by a margin of 93 per cent for a merger with the Federation of Professional Associations, a wing of the AEEU.

said: "We are in discussions with the TUC over the future of TUC to go ahead with such a Cabin Crew '89, but it would be inappropriate for me to comment further at this stage."

Bill Morris, the TGWU general secretary, said Cabin Crew' '89 was a "breakaway union" and that therefore a TUC affiliate such as the engineering union

"It is against the rules of the print unions when it agreed to merger and it would harm the cohesiveness of the trade union movement." Mr Morris said. He added that it was now the

function of the TUC's ruling general council to sort out the problem. He said he expected the AEEU to abide by the rules. The AEEU recently angered

Franchises

make a presentation to the Western Mail and Echo newspaper with a view to represent all employees. The MSF union has also submitted proposals to Trinity, the company owning the papers - although under pressure from the TUC, it has also invited the GPMU print union and the NUJ.

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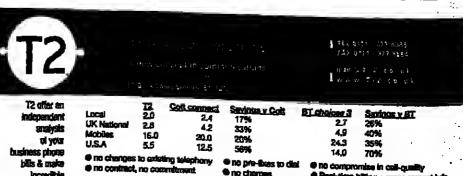
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### IN BRIEF Eastern profit

# Don't rule out a rise in interest rates

THE IMMEDIATE verdict of the financial markets on last week's Budget was that its headline-grabbing tax cuts have made another interest rate cut a little less likely. This may have been premature, and I think it is quite likely that rates will fall again, perhaps to 5 per cent, before the summer. However, looking beyond the short-term debate, fiscal policy may eventually contribute to a solid rebound in growth into the

millennium. As this becomes apparent, official interest rates may have to rise again, and possibly sharply. This possibility is not yet being seriously considered by the money markets, which currently envisage a smooth glide path towards eventual monetary union.

This week we may get the Bank of England's post-dated verdict. The Bank's Monetary Policy Committee was briefed on the broad shape of Gordon Brown's package before deciding, on 3 March, to eave interest rates unchanged the first time that rates hadn't fallen at a monthly MPC meeting

since September. On Wednesday the minutes of the March meeting are released, and they may reveal whether the Budget was a material factor in the committee's decision. I doubt the Budget played a big role in the MPC's deliberations.

The net tax cuts that it contained were significant. They were

KEVIN GARDINER

There's every reason to believe economic growth will rebound solidly through the millennium

economists are unlikely to have already incorporated them into their economic forecasts. However, the cuts were spread over three years, and focused sharply on 2001/02, with just £1bn falling in 1999/00.

As a result, the Budget will have done little to alter the Bank's best guess at the likely rate of growth in the economy in the year ahead, and is unlikely to have shifted significantly the MPC's view as to the appropriate level of interest rates. Rates may have been left on hold for other reasons such as the improvement in business surveys.

As yet, the official economic also unexpected, and the Bank's data have not fully reflected the

weakness flagged by last year's surveys. It looks as if export deliveries in particular may have taken their long-feared tumble in the first quarter, and the latest data again show too many unsold goods sitting on manufacturers' and distributors' shelves for comfort. The economy still looks set to slow further in the first half

Meanwhile, even us hardened inflation cynics concede that a long-awaited - and often-forecast dip in RPIX inflation to below target levels is likely soon. And the new average earnings data, which must surely be set in statistical stone for the time being at least, show pay growth trending steadi Alongside this prospective slow-

ing in output and inflation, the pound is once again defying economic gravity and has pushed back above levels not seen since before interest rates began to fall. The currency has thus made no contribution to the loosening of monetary conditions seen since the autumn, yet the Bank has hinted that it would welcome one (and indeed, has been forecasting one). All this suggests that it is too soon to proclaim the trough in

However, there are good reasons for thinking that the economy will begin to revive during the econd half of the year, and that it will gather significant momen-

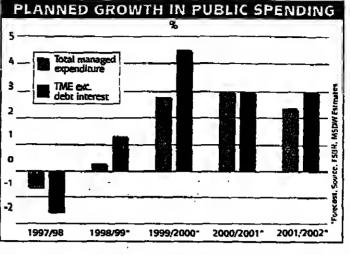
Perhaps most importantly, household finances are in solid shape. Aggregate wealth to income ratios are at an all-time high, and many consumers are experiencing a significant increase in their real spending power during 1999 thanks to low mortgage rates and continuing (albeit slowing) growth

in pay.
For some years now I have been tracking the fortunes of a fictional consumer whose finances are reasonably representative of a moderately-geared borrower. in 1999, their real spending power will rise by roughly one-tenth, to a level more than half as high again as at the peak of the 1980s boom.

But another factor, which has been overlooked in last week's debate about the incremental impact of the Budget and its short-term impact on interest rates, is the underlying trend in fiscal stance.

The Chancellor argues that fiscal policy has been tightened significantly since the Government took office. There has certainly been a big improvement in the public sector accounts - a current deficit equivalent to 3 per cent of GDP in 1996/7 has been transformed into a surplus of 0.5 per cent in 1998/9.

The Treasury estimate that almost three-fifths of this turnaround has been generated by restraint on public spending, and that tax changes and ecocomic growth have each contributed just



It is no surprise to find a Labour chancellor being tough on public spending. Of the three previous post-war chancellors who managed to cut real discretionary spending, two were Labour (Roy Jenkios and Dennis Healey).

However Mr Brown is planning to take the brakes off. A significant increase in public spending from 1999/00 was announced last June - a profile which was reaffirmed in November, and again last week. Having fallen slightly in the last two years, total managed

expenditure is projected to grow by almost 3 per cent in real terms, on average, in the next two years. If we exclude falling interest payments on the national debt, reinvested by their recipients, average real growth is close to 4 per cent. This could contribute roughly 0.6 per cent per annum to GDP growth.

The plans have long been known in outline, and so sttracted little new attention last week. Much of the increase in spending takes the form of capital invest-ment, and so is excluded from the projections of the widely-watched cyclically-adjusted Budget balances published in the Financial

Statement and Budget Report. Meanwhile, of the tax changes since 1996/97, perhaps half is accounted for by the abolition of tax credits on dividends. The bulk of this revenue will have been raised hich may largely be saved or from pension funds, which were in rude financial health to begin with. Relatively few consumers were ever going to be asked to pay higher pension contributions as a result of these tax increases, and the tax is unlikely to have had much, if any, impact on aggregate

Mr Brown's fiscal projections are plausible. He may even be underestimating the scale of the current Budget surplus to begin with, and the risk of a fiscal "black hole" re-emerging suddenly remains modest.

The medium-term rules according to which he is conducting fiscal policy are also as prudent as we could wish for. But the coming upturn in public spending. and the fact that consumers are not really feeling much of a tax squeeze on their incomes to begin with, represents another reason for believing that economic growth will rebound solidly through the millennium. And if it does, it will eventually take interest rates with

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It is not the Bank of England's job lo engineer n smooth glide path into European monetary union, but simply to keep inflation risk under control. There have been two interest rate cycles since 1994; there is plenty of time for another.

Kevin Gardiner is a senior economist and executive director at Morgan Stanley Dean Witter. He is writing in a personal

# 'very big mistake'

BY ANDREW VERITY

Berkshire's performance was "not as good as it looks", with most of the gains coming from issuing shares in subsidiary

his equity portfolio had under-1. 1. 221 N E 4724 

would have been better off last year if I had regularly snuck off to the movies during market



He also failed to disclose file investments in silver, oil and bonds, except to say he had sitions discussed last year and added certain others".

last year he had spent \$650m buying 129.7 million ounces of silver, close to a quarter of annual world output, calculating demand would outpace production. The price of silver has since fallen by 15 per cent.

shire Hathaway also held

of Berkshire Hathaway in 1965, and Gillette.

Mr Buffett's annual report shows he ditched a holding in Citigroup, the world's biggest financial services company, worth around \$1bn. His purchases included General Re, the

Berkshire last year amassed a \$15bn cash stockpile which may eliminated certain of the po- be used for a large acquisition.

# **Buffett admits his**

WARREN BUFFETT, the legendary American investment guru, yesterday reported a 48 per cent jump in earnings at his investment vehicle, Berkshire Hathaway, but warned he was still struggling to find good shares with long-term appeal. In his annual letter to shareholders. Mr Buffett admitted

Smart response Mr Buffett, whose homely ut- Buffett: Equity portfolio terances have earned him the underperformed S&P 500 nickname Sage of Omaha, said

> and derided his own decision to sell £30m of shares in McDon- with long-term appeal. But he in McDonalds returned 62 per cent over the year. "My decision to sell Mc-Donalds was a very big mistake," he wrote. "Overall, you



Mr Buffett said he and his performed the S&P 500 index vice-chairman, Charles Munger, were struggling to find stocks alds at the start of 1998. Shares avoided a repeat of remarks he made earlier this month on a US talk show, when he said market valuations were "high by historic

the outcome of large, high-pro-

Mr Buffett said in February

At the start of 1998, Berk-

\$4.6bn in zero-coupon Treasury bonds. US regulators' records show the company sold \$20bn during the year Since he took over as head

Mr Buffett bas grown the value of the company's book value from \$19 to \$37,801 a share, much of it through holdings in Coca-Cola, American Express

US reinsurance giant, for \$16hn.

### WHAT THE PAPERS SAID A ROUND-UP OF SUNDAY BUSINESS STORIES

■Diageo, the world's biggest drinks company, is set to sell of underperforming European brands. The clear-out, which also includes the sale of Greek, German and Italian brandies, is expected to raise £110m. The drinks company this month raised £218m from the sale of 14 North American brands.

Mirror Group has written to The Office of Fair Trading shareholders to seek approval stake in Scottish Media Group for £110m. The approval is necessary under Takeover

### The Observer

■ Britain will this week offer BMW £150m to build a new generation of Rovers at Longbridge, clinching the plant's the high street as Living. long term survival. The final package will amount to £200m, including local authority grants. Senior BMW executives, who have said they will build the new models in the

tween the abolition of the suing stock in subsidiaries married couple's allowance when the market was willing and the introduction of the to pay more than the assets new children's tax credit. were worth. Cinzano as part of a clear-out Economists and accountants ■ European interest rates are criticised the Treasury for implying in last week's Budget that the tax credit would replace the allowance immediately.

### The Sunday Telegraph

may ask News International for the sale of its 19 per cent to give an undertaking not to cut the price of The Times, the paper said. John Bridgeman, the director general of Fair Panel rules because of the Trading has been advised a referral to the Monopolies target. Trinity, one of the com- and Mergers Commission will vices is close to agreeing a deal to sell 41 department stores to Helical Bar, the property company, for £75m. Helical is thought to be the front-runner among 12 hidders for the stores, known on Générale and Paribas.

### SUNDAY & BUSINESS

■ Warren Buffet, the investinvest £1.5bn if they decide to ment guru known as the Sage of Omaha, has beaten the UK, will weigh the offer S&P 500 index for the 18th against a subsidy package year running. But he also offered by the Hungarian owned up to a losing year on the world's markets. Mr Buf-■ The Government is set to fet's investment company, collect a fl.60m windfall be Berkshire Hathaway, made a ter United's annual profits.

cause of a 12-month gap be- 43 per cent gain, partly by is-

set to be cut from 3 per cent to 2.75 per cent in the wake of the resignation last week of Oscar Lafontaine, Germany's finance minister. However, the cut will be put off until the meeting of the European Central Bank's governing council on 8 April.

### THE SUNDAY TIMES

■ The Government is set to offer BMW £200m towards the £1.5bn-plus cost of transforming Rover's Longbridge panies bidding for the Mirror, be on safer legal ground if Ni factory and creating a new has complained to the Panel about the proposed sale.

In the gers commission will factory and creating a new family of medium-sized cars.

In Co-Operative Retail Sera way to step into the takeover battle in French banking. Dresdner is considering a bid for Bank Nationale de Paris, which last week launched a hostile bid for both Société

### The Mail

chester United plc could be sparked by new forecasts on the future of pay-per-view TV. A report commissioned by Premiership clubs is to suggest that pay-per-view rev-enues should add between £50m and £100m to Manches-



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THE INDEPENDENT

### BUSINESS/17

## Rejuvenated Easdaq No table-dancing for Mayfair plans Nasdaq listing WHO'S

THE POWERS behind the world's many stock markets are not in the habit of accepting the rigours of a share quote - particularly on someon else's stock exchange. But Easday the fledgling pan European share market, is planning to take the plunge in the next two years. It is likely to seek a presence on its role model exchange - Nasdaq, the US market which never tires of reminding the world of its Bill Gates connection.

The moves towards listing its own shares come at a time when Easdan is indulging in a sulden burst of activity after what most observers regard as a rather subdued first 30 months of existence. The market has 40 constituents, quoted in the currency of their choice, with a combined worth of some £7.5bn. There must, however have been hopes that the number would be comfortably above the half century by this stage of the market's development.

Tasdaq is raising £18m from exand new shareholders and seems to be winning over Israeli companies which hitherto had favoured Nasdag, a small shareholder in Easdaq. The next recruit will be IT International Theatres, Israel's largest cinema chain, with Supercom, a software group involved in passports and visas, due shortly afterwards.

Easdaq sees itself as a market largely for small, high-tech companies but is prepared to spread its net far and wide. British constituents include Debonair, the airline which is the only share traded in sterling, and Grainger Telecom.

Memory Corporation, the computer group which had an eventful but ultimately disastrous time on the Stock Exchange's Alternative Investment Market, is the only company to switch from a London listing ta Easdag, a journey which did not provide universal enjoyment.

Britain's Dr Solomon's, producing anti-virus software products, was the founder member: it has since gone out in a blaze of glory through a takeover bid.

Tiel au tique

Ka 14.5 (25)

Although it is based in Brussels, Easdaq has a strong British representation. Its shareholders include stockbroker Beeson Gregory and approaching 30 domestic investment groups are members. The latest to sign up is Hoodless Brennan, which specialises in dealing for small in-

It is estimated that around 80 per cent of Easdaq's volume is provided by institutional investors with private shareholders accounting for the rest. But there is not much interest from Britain's big private army.

STOCK MARKET WEEK

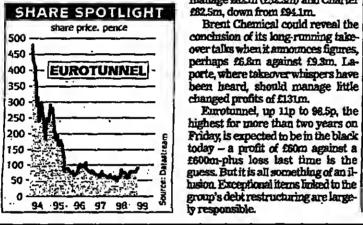


This could be due to the cost of trading although it could be the im-pression of high charges is due to factors outside Easday's control. For example, the cost of nominee accounts - essential when old-fashioned paper goes out of the window - are not the responsibility of the Exchange. The expense of a small £1,000 execution-only deal is high by British standards. It would cost around £50 with a custody charge of £30 for a year or part of a year.

The arrival of Hoodless Brennan could be a clear indication that the market intends to court Britain's private investors and there could be an attack on the cost structure.

It is, however, relatively simple to deal. All a private investor should need to do is contact his stockbroker who, if not a member, puts the order through a member firm which, in turn, trades with the recognised market makers. Half-a-dozen leading private client brokers, although not members, have indicated their willingness to take on Easdaq business.

The market is screen-based, quote-driven and uses the multiple market-maker system, similar to Nasdag and the stretches of the London market not on the computerised arder book.



WHOM

Although Euroland is spawning

much more cross-border investment

there are still almost 30 equity mar-

be prepared to accept the disciplines

of a "foreign" exchange, even one

London's Stock Exchange thought

Kingfisher, the Comet to Wool-

of £559.2m, an 11 per cent gain.

Other leaders on the profits sched-

are prominent with a chutch of engi-

terim figures mudging £100m against

689.3m and Telewest, as befits a high-

tech cable company with a roaraway

share price, will check in with another

the deficit managed a year ago. Else-

where engineers Cobham should nanage 982.m (£52.3m) and Charter

Brent Chemical could reveal the

conclusion of its long-running take-

porte, where takeover whispers have

Eurotunnel, up 11p to 98.5p, the

£82.5m, down from £94.1m.

neers reporting.

of course, be on Easdag.

corporate members.

### kets in Europe, mostly with sharply different accounting and regulatory IOHN systems. Easdag feels it should seek WILLCOCK its primary share presence on another market as it should be seen to

which is something of a mirror THE RESCUE of the Berkeley image. But it is likely there will also Playhouse Club, a table-dancing be a secondary listing and that will, venue In London's Mayfair which went bust last November, has come Only one European market Stock- unstuck. The administrator of the holm is a quoted operation. Most are club has launched legal action member-owned co-operatives or against the proposed buyer of the controlled by financial institutions. | cullapsed company.

The club was launched in swish about a share quote but eventually Berkeley Square two years ago. It dropped the idea. It has around 350 floated on Ofex in March 1997 at 110p, rose to 125p but then fell to 62.5p before dropping out of the worth's chain, will underline the in- market

creasing Europeanisation of the The club's wealthy investors were unable to stop it from going investment scene by announcing its into administration last autumn, year's figures in Paris on Wednesday. The idea is to illustrate the group's role as a pan-European retailer. and company rescue specialist Nick Miller of Kingston Smith & Partners has been seeking a buyer Its French Darty retailing scread is expected to outperform the British ever since.

side with profits up 12 per cent to The club owed £10m when it £120m B&Q the do-it-yourself chain went down, around a quarter of that will produce the best home-grown to private investors. A building contribution with an 8 per cent gain firm, Faith Dean, was owed 22m to £175m. Overall Kingfisher, believe BT Alex Brown, will achieve profits after the cost of refurbishing the building rose to £4.5 m. Another £1.1m is outstanding to other creditors after a downstairs restauule include Smiths Industries and rant failed to catch on. Telewest Communications. Mid caps

Jilly Johnson, the former Page Three model, organised the club's team of scantily-clad table dancers. Smith, with acrospace and medical Club members included property interests, is expected to produce in tycoon Peter Beckwith, father of "It" girl Tamara Beckwith.

Mr Miller told investors they were unlikely to see much of their money back. Then at the turn of the loss, say £300m, little changed from | year he started negotiating with a little-known business called May-



fair Centrefold, a company which he ment group, is suing Eagle Rock Castle's logo with that of Eagle described as having "Middle Eastern connections".

Now the sale is in disarray, and Mr Miller is suing Maylair Centrefold for repossession of the club's premises at 15 Berkeley Square, as well as another building at 35 Dover Street, also in the

TWO INDEPENDENT film and video companies have fallen out over a two-year-old deal to distribute works by artists ranging from Payarotti to the Sex Pistols, and on subjects as various as The Titanic to the Battle of Arnhem.

Castle Music, which was bought last year by Rutland Trust, the corporate finance and invest- ti - The Event, which replaced

Entertainment over a written eement dated 1 April 1997 under which Eagle Rock agreed to act as Castle's exclusive worldwide agent for a period of seven years. Eagle was to procure deals with

third parties to distribute, license and exploit the large number of films and other audio visual media owned or controlled by Castle. Castle is now claiming that Eagle Rock signed a lot of deals

with third parties without referring back to Castle first as agreed under their contract. For instance, Castle is complaining that Eagle Rock allowed a third party to release a digital

versatile disc (DVD) titled Pavarot-

the impression that the defendant. not the plaintiff, was the owner, says Castle. Castle also alleges that Eagle Rock failed to submit all the artwork to various films it distributed on behalf of the former, including

MC.

and,

our ired

oino

Rock - "so as to misleadingly give

Russia in Space part one, Hitler Youth, and Focke-Wulfe 190. Castle is applying to the court for a declaration that the whole deal has been validly terminated.

Castle's writ is in reply to a previous writ launched by Eagle against Castle at the end of last month, in a separate wrangle over the copyright to an album by The Stray Cats titled Choo Choo Hot

### Boots takes a step into the foot business

BOOTS THE CHEMISTS will open its first three chiropody centres today as it continues its expansion into related health services.

The first three chiropody centres highest for more than two years on Friday, is expected to be in the black will open in Crawley, Manchester today - a profit of £50m against a and Burton-on-Trent today. A further £600m-plus loss last time is the two centres will open at Bluewater guess. But it is all something of an il- Park, near Dartford, on Tuesday and husion. Exceptional items linked to the | Chester in May. The pilot stores will group's debt restructuring are large- be assessed before a national roll out

BY NIGEL COPE Associate City Editor

Boots has been looking at several ways of taking advantage of the strength of the Boots brand in the health sector. Its first dental-care practice will open in Milton Keynes

in May as part of an attack on the fragmented dentistry market. Boots already has a chain of op-

undertaken by, or under the supervision of, state-registered chiropodists. Boots is investing film in the pro-

strong chain of chemist stores. It

ject. It says the chiropody market as worth £200m last year. Richard Holmes, Boots' director of healthcare businesses, said:

"This trial is another example of

can build on its strong health and said its chiropody services would be beauty offer." He said the centres would offer a combination of clinical services

> Separately Boots has been expanding its chemists operations overseas. It has opened stores in the Netherlands and is examining options in other European markets.

and "pampering footcare treat-

### Incentive schemes getting tougher

COMPANIES ARE being forced to impose tougher conditions on directors' incentive schemes because of pressure from shareholders, according to a survey published today.

The survey, by New Bridge Street Consultants, showed 55 per cent of all new executive share option schemes were demanding an annual rise in earnings per share of more than 3 per cent above inflation.

In a quarter of new schemes, the target was higher than that figure. Until recently, the overwhelming But the trend towards such injurity of executive schemes schemes, prompted by the

BY ANDREW VERITY

had a target of 2 per cent

above inflation. New Bridge Street, a management consultancy, advises more than 30 per cent of FTSE 100 companies on executive remuneration. The authors of much more likely to have long its survey said pressure from institutional shareholders lay behind the tougher targets.

The survey said long-term incentive plans adopted last year had higher potential awards than in previous years.

Greenbury Committee's re- shareholder return, benchport into executive pay, was

In 1998, 60 per cent of companies granted long-term plans, against 57 per cent in 1997 and 50 per cent in 1996. FTSE 100 companies were

term plans than Mid-250 stocks, which overwhelmingly used share cotions.

Most share option schemes still used earnings per share as the criterion of success. Only 20 per cent of FTSE 100 companies and 13 per cent of Mid-250 companies used total

marked against the performance of an index.

In contrast, long-term incentive plans typically allocated free shares paid for by the company, handed out to executives meeting targets measured by total shareholder return.

Mark Anderson, director of New Bridge Street, said: "The survey shows clearly that the 'pay for performance' strategy which lay at the heart of the Greenbury Committee's re-port has had a major impact in

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### Companies reporting and economics diary for the week ahead Interims: Cortacs, FW Thorpe, Dandy, Oriflame

TODAY

Finals: Burford, Eurotunnel, Laporte, Spirax-Sarco, ASW, Bovis, Ennstone, Infobank, Linden, Naturai Building Materials, NSB Retall Systems, Ruberoid, Shaepe & Fisher, Ugland, Wellington Interima: Superscape, Benchmark Group, Jourdan Economics: Machina tools

(Jan), Ecofin meeting in Brussels

Finals: Bodycote, Britax, Char-

a,

ter, Coca-Cola Beverages, Computacenter, Telewest, Brammer, Capital Corp. Derwent Valley, Financial Objects, Finley (James), Headlam, Simon, Tudor Interims: Wolseley Dorling Kinderslev

Economics: PSNCR (Feb) WEDNESDAY

Finals: Brixton Estates, Devro, Hepworth, Kingfisher, Birm-Ingham Midshires building society, Clydeport, Gibbs &

Interims: Smiths Industries, Kler Group, Sirdar Economics: Bank of England MPC minutes (Mar), Labour mar-ket statistics (Feb)

THURSDAY Finals: British Borneo Oil, Cobham, Geest, John Laing, Kwik-Fit, National Express, St James Place Capital, WM Morrison Supermarkets, Churchili China, Dialog, Hanover International

Town Centre Securities Economics: Retail sales (Feb.), MA provisional (Feb), Building societies figures (Feb), Motor vehicle pro duction (Feb), MBBG lending (Feb), Engineering turnover (Jan)

Final: Henrys

Interim: Fortnum & Mason Economics: Consumer confi dence survey (Mar), Federation of Small Business arrual conference

The Index-Tracking PEP

Source Micropal-Little, Legal & General FISE Al-Stare Index-Tracking FEP on an offer to bid has based on all PEP charges with grow income referenced from 01.125 clarice learner) to 01.03-95; Para performance is not necessarily a guide to feature performance From 06.03-95 tax orders on IVE dividend distributions will only be side to be reclaimed to DEPs or achieved size of credits on 1% dividend distributions will only be able to be neclaised by PEPs 21 a reduced rate of life. Both captain and increme values may go down as well as up and put may no get hore the another invened. But written decisits are available on sequent. All automates are correct as at 0.10.5 %. The short invened has written decisits are available on the same and a same and the same and the same and the same are correct as at 0.10.5 %. The short invened have same are correct as at 0.10.5 %. The same are the same and the same are the same are the same are the same are the same of the same are the same are the same of the same are the same are the same are the same are the same of the same are the same are the same of the same are the same of the same are the same of the same are the same ar

81.45%\* growth in just over 3 years from the All-Share Index-Tracking PEP

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Shukburn's

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# Literary bantamweight hits below the belt

THERE WAS a big conference in Hammersmith last weekend, on falling standards in British arts and education. It was called "Culture Wars: Dumbing Down or Wising Up?" I was asked to take part in a discussion of the Western canon, that vast shelf of literary texts that have become accepted as "classics" because they're still taught on the English syllabus or because the reading public has kept them in print down the years from sheer enthusiasm, helped by the odd TV dramatisation with

screenplay by Andrew Davies and frocks by the Acme Plunge-Line Drawstring Bodice Ltd.

Four of us (two academics, a novelist-lecturer and D pondered whether the Parnassian Premier League of book titles was still the best object of literary study for modern youth. It's been a bone of contention for 20 years that most of the authors deemed worthy of study. from Chaucer to Chekhov, are dead, white European males, or Dwems, as they've been sarcastically christened by academics who would like to see other voices hlack writing, women's writings represented, to give a clearer world picture of creative literature rather the standard hierarchies.

When it was my turn, I banged on about the tentative canonisation of novels and poetry collections in the books pages of the British press, and how the evaluation of the better and the best was a natural human response. I talked about how great writers, from Coleridge to Solzhenitsyn, still found audiences who crammed debating halls from Edinburgh to Hay-on-Wye, keen to learn more about their lives, and to he steered towards a fresh look at their finest works...

A question from the floor. A Professor of English at Manchester Metropolitan University said how nice to have a literary journalist around, in this academic galère, and to hear his exciting views. (Uh-oh). Fascinating, he went on, to learn there were people alive who considered there were still such things as "masterpieces" and "classics". He grew eloquent about the sighting of a dinosaur such as L who actually bought this elderly stuff about novels being flowerings of the buman imagination, when, since 1971, be'd been teaching The Death of the Grand Narrative. "Where," he coo-

who smell an exploitable public interest, the popular academic reviewers who assume that some books and their authors are 'great' and will remain so?" It seemed odd, snarled, that the popular response to literature seemed to be less susceptible to changes of fashlon than that of university departfashion?" said the professor sleekly. Then everyone else piled in.

me all week. Once, in the mid-19th century, studying literature at university was considered a freakish and idle pursuit, like doing a PhD on Australasian Soap Opera these days. Now there's talk of joining Literature courses to Cultural Studies courses as a joint discipline, and the business of reading and responding to the best books ever written is to be downgraded all over again. What a mercy one doesn't have to be an English student now (and certainly not at Manchester Metropolitan University). Better, perhaps, to be out in the real world, where you can pick holes in Anna Karenina, or cry up the virtues of without being told you're wasting your time worrying about the 'quality" of either. One goes to Aristotle (below) at these trying moments. "The many judge better, about both music and poetry," he wrote in the *Politics*, "The crowd judges much better than any individual, whoever he may be." Even a university professor

AT 4AM yesterday morning, I listened as a brace of ponderous black boxers shugged it out together for the cluded, "has Mr Walsh been for the edification of a mass last 30 years?" It was something of audience avid for a poser on a quiet Sunday aftersome British glory. I noon, How had I missed these exrefer of course to Frank Brune and Chris Eubank, both citing developments in literary theory, that had comprehensively trashed Middlemarch and Tom of whom featured on Jones, remaindered Ulysses and Talk Radio's exclusive coverage of the big fight in Madame Bovary and sent The Idiot to the great skip in the sky? Madison Square Garden.

It was quite an ex-

**JOHN** 

**Walsh** 

ON MONDAY

There's not much you can do when

told you've missed the boat, criti-

cally speaking, for most of your

sponded crossly, "have you missed

the culture of appreciation over the

last 15 years - the explosion of lit-

erary festivals, the rise of readers'

groups, the flood of oew prizes,

perience. Once we'd got past working life. "How on earth," I reround seven, all pretence at objectivity from the British commentators bit the canvas. sponsored by commercial firms "Holyfield is get-

ting slaughtered bere," said Eu-bank excitedly. "It's absolutely fabulous. I've never seen Lewis box so well." "There's a swelling to Holyfield's right brow," reported Jim Rosenthal with giee. "He came into the ring singing; the only singing now is in his right ear." He chuckled. "Lewis is set to become ments. "Would you call 30 years a the first undisputed British boxing world champion of the century."

Eubank went all dreamy. "Tve Was I right? It's been bothering never seen him so poised. He's like a ballet dancer up there. It's all about poise. The first one to lose his poise loses the fight." There were a number of sibilants in this outburst. My radio was drenched in

Over to Frank Bruno at Talk Radio HQ in Oxford Street, London. "'E's punishin' 'Ollyfield," said Frank. "Doin' a wickid number on 'im. It's beau'iful to watch, Just as long as Lennox don't get lackydaysical."

By now we were at round nine. "A good left hook there from Holyfield," said Rosenthal, reminding us there was still some boxing going on, "but I make it six rounds to two Confessions of a Justified Sinner to Lewis." Eubank's ad hominem approach to the noble art continued. "Lewis just getting better looking as he goes along," he hreathed. "If you could see Holyfield's face, he just looks bludgeoned." General agreement among the Brits. "This is going to be an historic moment."

In the tenth, someone noticed a cut on Lewis's nose, but pobody worried about that. Not when "Holyfield is only punching in spurts. His right eye is closing." (Rosenthal) and "What a beautiful fight. He's doin'

a brilliant job, know what I mean?" (Bruno). The commentary had shrunk from being a description of a bout, to a simple reiteration: "He's going to win, he's going to win, Oh look a jab, be's going to

they were victually breaking out the Lennox has got this wrapped up," said Eubank. "It's a

By the 11th,



Eubank (left) and Bruno: Fighting to protect British honour, live on radio

wonderful performance." Round 12. the last round, and "Chris Eubank is on his feet, so are hundreds of British fans, There are Union jacks flying everywhere."

It was surprising, on the whole, to hear that Evander was still in the ring or indeed the building, "I'm not worried about Holyfield now," said Chris. "He's a spent force."

The match ended. All agreed it was a privilege to have been at such a notable victory. "Nobody's ever done it, all century," said Rosenthal in amazement, though nothing had actually been done yet. "Lewis," said Bruno in Loodon, "E made it all look so easy. 'E did a wickid job." "There's only one decision possible here," said Eubank.

Then the referee announced the decision. It was a draw. Three judges, three different marks. The British judge, Larry O'Connell, made it 115-115, "This is the most disgraceful thing," said Frank Bruno, sounding suddenly like a circuit judge. "It's daylight robbery.

They should be ashamed of them-

Eubank went further. "This is a travesty against justice. Larry O'Connell scored a draw and his paymasters are going to have to answer," he fumed. It was surprising they didn't produce an instant conspiracy theory about the perfidious Irish rigging the votes. Bruno and Eubank went off sounding as if

There's nothing worse than a foregone conclusion which isn't.

WHEN I confessed last week to my unhealthy passion for the new Fantastic Plastic Elastic chair by Ron Arad, I didn't realise dozens of you would demand to know where to get one. This is not a consumer column, thank you very much, but a display case of cutting-edge transmedial analysis. I am a surfer of the Zeitgeist, ears attumed to the charivari of modern life. I am not here to flog furniture. But if you must know they cost £125 and come in numerous colours from Artworks, 21-22 Upper St, Islingtoo London NI (0171-359 they'd like to bash up somebody. 4778). And they really are gorgeous.

### THE MONDAY CROSSWORD

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by Esau No.3870 Monday 15 March 12 ACROSS Abandon TV as childish 14 Be relieved one's aban-

entertainment? (4-2-3-3) Extension of deadline for book production (7) Built ET to look weird -

A non-human flier (4-3) After meal, front the

12 Adult opposed to a basic Change side at first to

doned dilapidated summerhouse (9)

16 Coming together to study complaint with hospital dept (9) 19 Saying few words,

leaves loose ends (5) band in performance of 21 A bird's call cut short -

rag (7)
Adult opposed to a basic diet, wanting richness (7)

it's gone back in - in the water? (7)
Problem facing Alexander not heard of in faithful prince, maybe (5) legend (7)

24 Get angry, after sales-man withdraws some

toiletry (7)
It should protect sewer from minor damage (7) 26 Big day in Missouri (12)

DOWN

It's quite a few days after New Year's Eve (7) Rig up lining of hood for. Western female (7)

Sick, say, with bile disor-der that can't be understood? (9) Exotic drums strike up

a note (5) Rival, one unable to fly after a certain time (7) There's a fuller description of such figures (7)
Stiffness from doing too many exercises, eventu-

ally marked? (7,5) Wonderful Greek city hosting Eastern king seen turning up (3,4,5) Bright one kept in col-

lege went into action (9) 17 There's no charge for one's particular contribution to physics (7)
18 Cooked cutlet served

with English salad (7)
19 Pretend to have secret-

ed gold overseas (7) Can I manage to be friendly? (7)
22 Make a fuss, missing a

Greek island (5)

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It is given a new days

Western temperature

Sources (i)

HER Withornes some

THE INDEPENDENT

# Lewis lets the prize escape



RICHARD WILLIAMS IN NEW YORK

IT WAS, in most eyes, an old-fashioned mugging on Seventh Avenue. After 12 rounds of boxing, Lennox Lewis believed he had Evander Holyfield's titles in his pocket. But then came the judges' verdict, depriving him of the right to call himself the undisputed heavyweight champion of the world.

Later, when the waves of noise had died away in the giant arena, when the fighters and their retinues had left the building and the maintenance crews had moved in, one sound echeed around the corridors of Madison Square Garden the deafening cackle of Don King. A' night that will go down in boxing history for its failure to produce a winner in the ring had delivered to King a cylible victory. Holyfield and Lewis

w. Jalmost certainly fight again, generating another fortune in payper-view receipts. And, thanks to the judges whose consensus was unable to split the fighters, King retains a grip on the heavyweight division which a Lewis victory would very likely have destroyed.

Not since Sonny Liston quit on his 20 | Share the proper sewer stool in his first fight against the then Cassius Clay 35 years ago has there been such a contentious ending to from martet damage if If the said it is said to the biggest of all prize fights. Lewis's connections were aghast and angry. Even Holyfield's handlers seemed ahashed. And the accusations concerning King's baleful influence effect to a Year Evel began.

"I knew they wouldn't let me leave here with three belts without trying to do some fanny business," Lewis the sport I carn my living from," Emanuel Steward, his trainer, said, "and I'm ashamed of it. This was was supposed to give boxing a resurgence of interest and it turns out to be an embarrassment."

or time of The CompuBox statistics told one story. They said that Lewis had landed a total of 338 punches to Holyfield's 130, that he had connected with 187 jabs to Holyfield's 52, and that he had made 161 power to the had made 161 power punches count, against Holyfield's 78. Supporting evidence came in the physical and mental condition of both men at their post-fight press conference, during which Holyfield appeared bruised and winded while Lewis looked fresh enough to fight a few more rounds.

Some of the judges saw other evidence, and the difference of viewonic was exaggerated by their core des Scoring is assessed on nunches landed in the target area,



and is compiled round by round on the basis of marks out of 10. So a split round is scored 10-10, a narrowly decided round will he 10-9, and a clear-cut round (of which there were none on the scorecards on Saturday night) will be 10-8. A high concentration of punches in a single round has little influence on the overall outcome - unless it produces

There, were no knockdowns on Saturday. One judge, Stanley Christodoulou of South Africa, appointed by the World Boxing Association, went along with the computer, giving the fight to Lewis. by 116-113. "Lewis's blows were more damaging, and he landed more of them," he said. The International Boxing Federation judge, Jean

Williams of New Jersey, gave it to as conspicuous as a old-time hook-Holyfield, by 115-I13. "I scored by the er on the newly cleaned-up 42nd Street. But at this level a title is not blows that connected in the target easily given up. It has to be taken away from its holder. Even though area," she said. "I had a job to do, and I did it." And the British judge, Larry O'Connell, representing the World his performance exceeded most Boxing Council and paid by the people's expectations, Lewis did not British Boxing Board of Control, make the most of his opportunities had it all square at 115-115. "I know to finish Holyfield off, and towards the I'll get some stick," he said, "but it's end of the fight be eased back in my decision to call the fight as I see order to preserve himself from danit. When I score each round I never ger. For this reason, and because boxknow what the overall score is going ing is not about the sheer volume of to be." Since the result is not deterblows but about the right blows at the mined by points but by majority, the right time, my scorecard read result was a draw, outraging the vast 115-115, like that of the much-abused Larry O'Connell, with five rounds to majority of observers, whose opinion was based on the punch count. each man and two even.

The night had hegun with a pow-Anyone choosing to argue the case for the outcome of the judges' erful sense of occasion. The sold-out decisions is likely to end up looking house included Michael Douglas, erful sense of occasion. The sold-out

Spike Lee, Bo Derek, Liam Neeson, gressed. For the American, the third John F Kennedy Jr, Paul Simon, Sarah Jessica Parker, Keith Richards, Magic Johnson, John McEnroe, Jerry Seinfeld and the Rev Jesse Jackson, plus 7,000 British fans who joined in a pub-style rendering of the national anthem led by an actual East End publican, Harry Brown, and then spent the next hour out-cheering and outchanting the bemused locals. Fears of more direct confrontation went happily unfulfilled Lewis confounded his detractors

by beginning the evening like an runaway express, taking the fight to Holyfield and winning the first two rounds with a convincing demonstration of his jab, although Holyfield came on stronger as each round pro-

round was always going to be the crux of the fight, since this was when he had promised to knock Lewis out. He certainly did his darndest, moving up through the gears as he crowded Lewis into a corner, trying to catch him with left hooks. By surviving that turnultuous onslaught, Lewis had dismantled Holyfield's only strategy. "There is no Plan B," the American had said before the fight, and from then on he was making it up as he went along.

Both men rested in round four before Lewis took up the initiative in the fifth. Backing Holyfield on to the ropes, he unleashed a sequence of long right hands to the head, trying to measure Holyfield for the big one. This was Lewis's best chance, but

he failed to capitalise on it. Jean Williams's decision to score this round, Lewis's best, 10-9 to Holyfield represented the night's biggest abaurdity. The fighters resumed a mutual caginess in the sixth, with Lewis well ahead as the fight reached its half-way mark, having succeeded in preventing Holyfield from getting inside and engaging him at close quarters. But there was a sign of the continuing threat from Holyfield when the American, having pressed Lewis, suddenly withdrew, sucking his opponent towards him before striking with great suddenness. But Lewis was alert enough to evade the danger, and made further gains in the seventh, landing several good long rights and

Football: 2-5 舅 The week ahead: 6 舅 Brian Viner: 7 體 Rugby Union: 8 聞 Racing: 10 目 Cricket: 11 目 Tennis: 12

Evening Worship

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# Trust in the game can pay great dividends

**Grounds Improvement Trust** when it was established by the then Minister for Sport, Denis Howell, in 1975 and later for almost 20 years with its successor the Football Trust. So I was delighted when the noted Raith Rovers fan, Gordon Brown, ensured the survival of the Trust last week by further cutting the pools betting tax in his Budget.

The football pools have been competing manfully with the National Lottery so the reduction in tax (now 17.5 per cent) means they can streamline their operations while maintaining their £8m annual contribution to the Football Trust.

The Football Trust's is a spectacular success story. Little over 10 years ago, a leading news-

sport watched by slum people in slum stadiums. The game had been brought almost to its knees by a auccession of crowd tragedies and awful outbreaks of violence on the terraces.

John Major first reduced the pools betting duty in 1990. thus releasing a flow of funds used to implement the Taylor Report. Latterly the Football Trust has been partly funded through the proceeds of a three per cent reduction in the tax.

New grounds have heen built, new stands have gone up. and terraces in the lower divisions have been made safer. The Trust has contributed £300m to the game. Football has been transformed.

paper proclaimed in an editor-ial that football was a slum most complete and the Trust was fearing for its survival. Comprising representatives from all the major football bodies, it holds a uniquely independent position capable of giving help to the game at all levels throughout the UK.

Government and football should now come together to forge a new, longer-term future for the Trust in the millennium. There is so much to be done and the Football Trust, chaired

by Labour MP Tom Pendry, the former shadow spokesman for sport, can play a vital role. Already the Premier League helps Football League clubs. It provides £10m a year for centres of excellence and ground im-

ments up to the year 2001.



GRAHAM KELLY

Provided the Premier League can resist the challenge from the Office of Fair Trading to its authority to negotiate television contracts on tinue aiding the game's lesser ample, Stanground Commu-

hrethren through the Football nity College in Peterborough the areas which need help

Clubs in the lower leagues its new sports hall. will always oeed help with safety and improvement work. And below the professional levels, the grass roots of football are crying out for help. Ten thousand sports fields have been sold off in the last 20

Many inner city facilities for football are sorely in need of renovation. With nowhere to play kids are much more likely to turn to crime, vandalism or drugs. More small-side grass pitches are needed for the under-10s. And local authorities face a massive shortfall in the maintenance budget behalf of its clubs, it should con- for schools facilities. As an exfaces costs of £450,000 to fit out most.

The Stephen Lawrence Report confirmed that racism still permeates our culture and institutions. Football is part of this equation. Properly funded at all levels, the national game can become a true catalyst for change and improvement.

The Government must build on its good work, because it has not yet fully implemented its election pledge to maintain the Football Trust as a UK-wide

The Premier League must he prevailed upon to continue helping its lesser bretheren. The Football Association, as the representative body of the whole game, must prioritise

Bookmakers, who make massive profits out of football, must be levied at a proper level. A wager on football in a high street betting shop generates a tax which benefits horse racing and not football.

British football is unique in the role it occupies in society, in issues of health and wellbeing, and in the environment, and our national culture. It is unique, too, in its strength in depth. We should treasure the lower division clubs, rather than castigate them for struggling to continue against all the odds. Even the most humble can be a focus of civic pride.

Three agencies can come together and become a real force

could not have contrived to

play Internazionale at St James' Park instead of the San

Siro on Wednesday night. At

Newcastle's ground, they could

have expected to score at least

there as a plundering Magpie.

Andy Cole claimed 47 goals. In

the three matches he has

played there as a Red Devil, he has stabbed in a further three.

The Toon Army were not

strictly accurate wheo they paraphrased Antield's old Ian

Rush ditty to proclaim that every time Cole got the ball he

far wide of the mark either.

scored a goal. From the mo-

ment he struck on his first ap-

pearance there, turning to

crack a right-foot shot past

Notts County's Steve Cherry at the Gallowgate End six years ago, Cole has been carrying

goals to Newcastle with a pro-

His 49th was delivered after

25 minutes on Saturday, with a

finish to beat Shay Given.

flash, six minutes into the sec-

ond half, Newcastle were

effectively beaten and Cole and

his colleagues were preparing

to head off on their Inter mis-

sion with their four-point lead

intact at the top of the Pre-

It is unlikely to be so easy for

them in Milan, though they did

have to overcome a spirited

early challenge from Rund Gui-

lit's resurgent Newcastle side.

as well as a one-goal deficit, Noi-

berto Solano having adeptly

curled a 16th minute free-kick

ductive vengeance.

In the 45 games he played

one priceless away goal.

Cole inspired

his old haunts

by return to

the Government (with the Sports Councils), football itself, and the Football Trust. Health and quality of life can be improved. Football can become a valuable vehicle in o fight against social exclusion. Girls and boys can be given better iacilities and more opportunities kidd hrov

Their lives would be enhanced. It needs imagination, real commitment, and co-ordination. Given the right backing a relaunched Football Trust can

do the job. If that happens, to revive some old cliches, they'll be dancing in the streets in Raith. And Gordon Brown will be justifiably over the moon, Tony Banks should set this agenda without delay.

# Chelsea find Foe far too tough

ITS OFFICIAL. The Premiership is now a "two-horse race" and Gianluca Vialli isn't in the saddle of either runner. After only their third defeat of the season the Chelsea manager spent some time playing down the West Londoners' chances of winning the title – their first since 1955 - but a rather-too-innocent Flo was habitually beaten in the glint in his eye suggested that the assertion should be taken neutralised somewhere around with a pinch of the white stuff.

If West Ham are some sort of gauge of title aspirations then Vialli might have a point. After all, a point is all that Chelsea took from their matches against the Hammers this dock, a reassuring presence in seasoo while Manchester United and Arsenal achieved three wins and a draw between them against Harry Redknapp's un-

predictable side. If Chelsea's season is to be consigned to the past, then best turn to the future and West Ham's Cameroon international midfielder Marc Vivien Foé. The £4m signing from Lens is an awkward customer, a de- of it, too. Paul Kitson got his refensive-minded player whose rambunctious style is a cross between Patrick Vieira and from six yards after Ed De Paulo Wanchope. Stationed in Goey had blocked a header front of the West Ham back two, his long legs intervened on several occasions when Chelsea's short-passing game threatened, while a first-half goal was questionably disallowed after a harmless-looking challenge from Marc Keller.

"It's a different-paced game than he's used to but he's settled in well." Harry Redknapp remarked afterwards. "He's a spoiler. He's strong as an ox." West Ham's classy defensive unit benefited from this extra

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By PETER CONCRIE

West Ham United

layer of protection leaving the impressive Rio Ferdinand free to cope adeptly with both Chelsea strikers. Tore Andre air and Gianfranco Zola was grass roots level, dominated and neutralised with a series of well-timed nudges and muscular interventions. The England centre-back was supported by his first lieutenant Neil Rudcase things cut up rough, which they didn't.

Chelsea were undone by their own integrity. Their laudably ingrained approach is to work and fashion, to shape openings and craft goals, but it was West Ham who eventually did the hard work of popping the ball between the sticks. And what hard work they made ward for a lonely afternoon up front, finishing inconclusively from the omnipresent Foe. Although the Dutch keeper scooped the ball out, it had clearly crossed the line.

Clearly Crossed the line.

Goals: Kitson (75) 0-1
Chelsea (4-4-2) De Goey: Le Saux (Petrescu, 60), Desailly (Duberry, 60), Myers (Forsed 83). Ferrer: Wiscon Di Marcea, Goldback, Babayaro: Fio. Zola. Substitutes not used: Morris, Hitchcock (gk).

Wiest Ham United (4-5-1) Hitshop: Minto, Ferdinand, Ruddock, Pepres: Larroard, Lornas, Foe, Smclain Keller (Potts, 86); Nitson. Substitutes not used: Luzardis, Berkovic. Moncut, Forrest (gk).

Referee: S Lodge (Barnsley).

Bookings: Chelsea: Duberry, Di Matteo.

West Ham United: Foé.

Man of the swetch: Ferdinand.

EUROPE'S WEEKLY AMERICAN FOOTBALL NEWSPAPER

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irst Down



Michael Duberry (left) impresses Trevor Sinclair with his Superman impersonation

David Ashdown



Sherwood: 89th-minute goal

### Spurs escape from French fixation

SPURS ENTER the most im- BY PHIL SHAW portant week of their season buoyed by only their second Premiership victory this year, although their performance was unlikely to have Barnsley, their FA Cup quarter-final hosts tomorrow, or Leicester, with whom they contest the Worthington Cup on Sunday, quaking in their boots.

Tim Sherwood's goal, as the contest reached its penultimate minute, was enough to deny Villa what would have heen their second point in seven matches. If the crowd appeared as surprised as they were delighted, it was probably because Spurs had scored when David Ginola was no longer on the pitch.

George Graham's team are in danger of becoming fixated with the Frenchman Against Villa, virtually their only attacking ploy was to work the ball wide to Ginola on whichever flank he was lurking and hope that one of the front two, or perhaps Sol Campbell, might connect with a cross. As one-dimensional tactics go,

it is a pretty good one. Ginola's ability to deliver with either foot, and from the most hemmed in of positions, puts even David Beckham in the shade. The problem is that if he can be subdued - admittedly a big "if" on his present form - there is little evidence of any Plan B.

Few clubs appreciate the rewards that rigorous manmarking can bring better than Spurs' Wembley opponeots. Leicester's success in the same competition two years ago owed much to Pontus Kaamark's limpet-like attention to Juninho, one of the few players whose destructive capacity compares with Ginola's.

Tottenham Hotspur Aston Villa

Frustratingly for Graham, Sherwood is ineligible for the final. The midfielder's well-timed runs into the penalty area lend variety to Spurs' attacks, all the more vital when Darren Anderton is as indolent as he was on Saturday. It was the Martin Peters act of the former Blackburn captain act which finished off

Villa, albeit a trifle fortuitously. When Steffen Iversen shot, Mark Bosnich falled to hold the ball for the only time. Sherwood headed the rebound against a post, but had the ball returned to him by Alan Wright's miscued clearance and seemed to use a hand in bundling it in. Like the referee's failure to punish Ian Walker for what appeared a cynical foul as Alan Thompson rounded him in the opening minutes, it summed up

Villa's current luck "A scrappy goel," sighed John Gregory, ruing a win by the club he grew up supporting. "I wish we could get one." Not that he has lapsed into self-pity, being as open and honest as when Villa sweeping all before them. He blamed himself for failing to strengthen further one of the division's smaller squads. la's maverick talents. But until but refreshingly declined to use

the lack of depth as an excuse. Gregory also spoke candidly about his team's lack of confidence, the quality which sustained Villa at the summit until Christmas. One cameo in the first half, after Mark Draper's clever back-heeled pass gave Lee Hendrie a glimpse of goal, demonstrated the problem vividly.

Instead of shooting, the nor-

mally precocious Hendrie laid a safe ball back to Stan Collymore, who did exactly the same. The moment was lost and Villa did not create a scoring chance. Worryingly, it was a similar story

in the midweek defeat at Derby. Steve Stone could be forgiven for feeling confused. After forsaking a supposedly lost cause at Nottingham, he found himself in a team showing relegation form. Sent off for fouling Ginola when they last met, the £5.5m recruit was now delegated to check the winger's surges. The task brought a predictable caution and allowed little scope for

any positive contribution. Gregory's side may now struggle to secure the European place that once looked theirs for the taking. It was Graham who, after Villa drew at Leeds during their club-record hreaking start, said they were top-six possibles but not championship material. The words oow read more like sound judgement than sour grapes. Having been eliminated from

all three knock-out competitions by mid-January, Villa have made a sorry advert for the time-honoured concept of concentrating on the League. Concentrating on the cups may not be Graham's style in the longer term, any more his over-reliance on Ginonext Sunday at least, Spurs' season is alive, whereas Villa's

is in danger of dying on its feet.
Goat: Shewood (89) 1-0.
Tottunkun Hotspur (4-4-2): Walker; Car.
Vega, Carpbell, Barton (Shron, 80): Netsen,
Anderon, Shewood, Groin (Dominguez, 80):
Antistrong (Nersen, 80), Feddinand, Sabathanes not used: Young Boardson (84).
Asten Wills (3-5-2): Bosnich; Schmeda.
Southean Barre, Stone Dranet, Hendric. Referen: P Jones (Loughboroug Bookings: Tottenham: Ferdin Barry, Oraper, Stone, Hendrie.

IT IS a pity Manchester United BY SIMON TURNBULL

**Newcastle United** Manchester United

in off Peter Schmeichel's lefthand post from 25 yards.

Ultimately, however, Alex Ferguson's treble-shooters won with such ease Raimond van der Gouw did not have a save to make as a second-half replacement for the flu-hit Schmeichel. But the great Dane will be back to guard his team's 2-0 advantage in the

"I think they will get through on Wednesday," Gullit, twice a scored a goal. But they were not European Cup winner with Milan, predicted, "but it's going On average, every time the lightning-quick poacher has got a game at St James' he has to be hard. It's going to be hostile for them in Milan. Maybe the fans won't let them sleep the night before."

And maybe Mircea Lucescu will be the one having less than quaranta winks. The Internazionale coach already has much on his mind from the first leg of the European Cup quarter-final - Yorke's heading, David Beckham's crossing, Jaan Stam'a defending, Schmeichel's keeping - and his spies will now have added Cole's

predatory pounce and a firsttime shot from close-range razor-sharp finishing to the list. after Dwight Yorke flicked on a "Andy was lightning today." Henning Berg header while Fergusoo enthused. "He's getstatuesque Laurent ting better all the time. It's been Charvet waited in vain for help. important that he and Dwight His 50th, in 48 St James' have teamed up really well."-Park appearances, was an

They have scored 47 goals this season and, "Playing with equally swift Cole strike: a hurst from the blocks to beat Dwight has done a lot for me," Charvet to a clipped Ryan Cole acknowledged. "It's the Giggs cross and a side-footed kind of partnership I've been looking for ever since I played With that second goalscoring here with Peter Beardsley."

It was Kevin Keegan who ended that equally successful union. Can England's caretaker still afford to be without

CF Still aliDrd to De without Such a precious commodity? Goals: Solano (16) 1-0: Cate (25) 1-1; Cate (51) 1-2; Hewcastle United (4-4-2): Given: Barton (Maric. 82). Charvet, Dabtzas, Domic Solano, Hamann, Speed, Georgiadis (Lee. h-t): Ketsbala (Saha, 61). Shearer, Swinstitutes not used: Griffin, Harper (gil). Manchestur United (4-4-2): Schmeichel (Nan der Gouw, h-t): G Neville, Scan, Berg, Irwin: Beckham, Scholes (P Neville, 86). Keane. Giggs (Johnsen, 74); Varlac, Cole. Substitutes noe used: Solsidos; Vallonger, Solomyste.

G'CK MORTON V RAITH



Game Results 13/3/99. This Saturday there were 7 score drews: COVENTRY V SLACKBURN SLACKPOOL V WREXHAM LEICESTER V CHARLTON CAROIFF V TORQUAY PORT VALE

\*Matchmakar Adjudicated Results for postponed matches

Hame wins (1): DUNGEE UTD v HEARTS. Away wins (0): NONE No score draws (0): NONE.

Score draws (0): NONE.

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Manhael ant a 1003 Many aphabe he ad Languages to 1000 Manhael he ad

I think they will get the

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Leeds

Graham's successor at Elland

Road that he has clearly decided

victory lifted them five points

clear of their nearest challengers and to within hailing

distance of third-placed Chelsea, but O'Leary resists the

temptation to set his sights on

"I'll settle for fourth place

with this team," be said. "I

don't think it is possible for us

to go higher because we don't

have the depth of squad to

match any of the current top

three. I have nobody to bring on

when our key players get sus-

league, and if we tinish fourth

we will have won the other

league. My players are already

over-achieving for mc." On that reckoning, Wednes-

day must be two or three

leagues further down the peck-

ing order, because a single en-

forced absence is enough to set

the alarm bells ringing for

them, such has been their re-

liance on a couple of charis-

matic individuals this season.

The Paolo di Canio saga

may be behind them, but such

is their dearth of goal scoring

talent that the suspension of his

fellow Italian Benito Carbone

was enough to make this York-

shire derby a one-horse race

Their manager, Danny Wil-

son, admitted that his side

never looked like scoring and

confirmed that his season-long

search for a reliable striker

goes on. Wednesday pretty well

matched Leeds in their ap-

proach work and chances cre-

ated, but with Andy Booth and

Ritchie Humphreys firing noth-

ing but blanks, Nigel Martyn's

goal never came under serious

What Leeds possessed and

Wednesday did not was an appetite for goals, and nobody was hungrier than Jimmy Floyd

Hasselbaink. He put Leeds ia with a well-worked free

kick after only four minutes, sent another fierce 25-yard

drive narrowly wide, and would

have scored from the same

Though his teenage striker

hard, he never found his fin-

ishing touch, and it was left to

the second attempt after Sr-

nicek had blocked his first shot.

Not yet vintage Leeds, but

even before it began.

"They are in their own little

pended.

a Champions' League place.

His side's fifth consecutive

to take nothing for granted.

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**'their** league' BY PHIL ANDREWS Sheffield Wednesday Leeds United IT TOOK Leeds so long to confirm David O'Leary as George

and here can be developed by the state of th everyone judges a sports contest the same way. A few hours before the Big Apple turned sour on Lennox Lewis a very different slugging contest in the mud of Highfield Road finished with a similar divergence of

"We deserved to win, that was two points lost, not one gained," said Brian Kidd, the Blackburn Rovers manager. "1 can't remember our goalie making a save. We could and should have had the three points," responded Gordon Strachan, his Coventry City counterpart.
Since football matches are

decided by goals, rather than opinion, neither could dispute the drawn verdict that left both pondering what might have been. Given their home advantage and proliferation of chances Coventry ought to have won and thus put seven points between themselves and the relegation zone.

Blackburn, having gained a gritty away point, had more rea-son to be pleased but, having failed, despite dominating possession, to gain the win that would have hauled them out of the bottom three, were also dis-These are difficult times for

Rovers, Coventry are used to scrapping among the dead men but Jack Walker's Blackburn bhisprint has higher ambitions. Even after falling away last spring they qualified for Europe. A year on, despite massive investment (£36m in nine months, with only a third recouped in sales) they are closer to visiting Blundell Park than Barcelona

Kidd noted that Blackburn were bottom with nine points from 15 matches when be inberited them in December but flanks. Kidd was rewarded



MOORE

Coventry City Blackburn Rovers

Kidd's kids

thrown in

remains insufficient. If mainained to the end of the season their points-to-games ratio under Kidd will leave them with 38 to 39 points, which is not usually enough to survive. Kidd himself has spent more

than £15m but the impact of this investment has been dissipated by the fall-out from Rovers' dreadful disciplinary record and the constraints of a crippling injury list. On Saturday Darren Peacock and Marion Broomes were suspended, which is their own fault, but Kevin Gallacher, Jeff Kenna, Tim Flowers, Gary Croft, Christian Dailly, Keith Gillespie and, most damaging of all, Billy McKinlay and Gary Flitcroft, were all injured.

The latter two will not be back this season which explains Kidd's recent pursuit of a central midfielder. In their absence Jason Wilcox moved into midfield where he capped a busy performance with several good breaks down the left. some thoughtful passing and, most importantly, Rovers'

That was prompted by the bold introduction of a brace of Damiens, Duff and Johnson, both 20-years-old, to prowi the

"background is in kids", he is loath to put too much responsibility on their shoulders. He said: "It doesn't warry me

playing them but you can't play too many-at one stage we had five young pups out there. It can scar them. They need experienced players around them."

Strachan concurred: "This situation can be very hard on young players. I'd like to bring them in myself but this is no

The upshot is that one relegation struggle can lead to another because it means there is no opportunity to blood youngsters and develop the team without the pressure of results. Kidd is trying to overhaul Rovers hut has to combine long-term objectives with the urgent need for points.

"You are not doing your job right if you do not look to the future and try to get the base right," he said. "We've just signed two young Scottish players and Matt Jansen, with that in mind. But they can be scarred if not developed right." Jansen, indeed, was disap-

pointing. Barely fit and stuck on the left he looked a shadow of the player who sparkled for England Under-21s last Nor was Chris Sutton fit

though he battled gamely. Talk of an England recall is premature though Kidd paid tribute to his quality afterwards. He also said Glenn Hoddle had told him he was prepared to reconsider Sutton once he was fit. On the debit side Sutton might have become Blackburn's 10th red card if his first-half elbow on Muhamed Konjic had been

The form of Coventry's own England hopeful, Darren Huckerby, underlines the stresses on young players.



Blackburn's Chris Sutton (front) tries to evade the close attentions of Coventry's Muhamed Konjic

he was dropped to the bench and looked sluggish when he

Aloisi's well-taken goal and was behind most of their better moments. However, he also departed on crutches with a damaged - but not broken - ankle. Strachan will hope he makes a

jeopardise your Premiership

### It was thus left to Gary McAllister to provide Coventry's inspiration. He helped set quick return, as Blackburn

### No defence in Wenger bemoans Petit loss \*Liverpool's European case

GERARD HOULLIER may BY NORMAN FOX never become the north's complete answer to Arsène Wenger but be is wise enough in the realities of football to know that the reasons he gave for Liverpool's misleadingly narrow de-feat at Pride Park on Saturday belied the depth of his problems.

It was, he said, mainly a matter of "defeating ourselves with the frailty of our defending" and an inability to counter Derby's set-piece opportunities. Right on both counts, but then there was the matter of Robbie Fowler and, until he had to leave the field with a slight injury Michael Owen failing to win anything in the air, Jamie Redknapp never getting to grips with Derby in midfield, and the mystery of the nonappearance in the squad of Steve McManaman

And all this on a day when Kevin Keegan was there doing his homework. Obviously one of the players be most needed to wing candidates, McManaman, who seems to have been on siesta since deciding to join Real Madrid.

Houllier tried to turn it into "no problem", but clearly there is Indeed, his sagging body language was more expressive taken be probably realised. He confessed that a place in Europe next season was looking increasingly unlikely whereas Derby's Jim Smith was rightly full of optimism, but a little confused.

"I just wish someone could tell me what the rules are for getting into Europe next season". Easy answer, carry on playing like this and Europe will come to you.

Liverpool's flaws were deep enough to make it obvious that rumours of Houllier having a big turn-out in the spring need to be taken seriously. But for Perby to floor a team still con-bining considerable individnal talent required a lot more than a few well-placed freekicks and corners, although they provided the route for their goals.

Derby County Liverpool

The foundation work was their immense industry in midfield, where Francesco Baiano was both diligent and thoughtful, and the forward strength of Deon Burton and gangling Paulo Wanchope - who Smith said would confuse him totally if he had to play against him.

Certainly Phil Babb and Rigobert Song were confused for most of the game. Neither got near Burton as he headed in Lars Bohinen's 12th-minute corner, but at least Fowler kept ferreting into the Derby penalty area and was unfortunate to fail almost on the line following a fine run and shot by Owen, who, on another bright run, was felled by Spencer Prior.

"We got so many balls behind their back four or five and all the balls were turning into real assess was one of his few left chances," Derby's Croatian defender, Igor Stimac said.

"They have to sign some proper players. They're a huge club and there are a lot of good defenders in the world. They have to find good defenders and get them because if not, they'll never do anything."

Fowler's penalty lifted Liverpool but only temporarily. Wanchope simply reopened their filmsy defence with a 12yard header, then with a wonderful turn and shot. Although Fowler deservedly thumped in Dominic Matteo's shrewd pass across the penalty area, and, as Smith admitted; Derby were "running on empty", it is Liverpool who are no longer in the

Proposition (12) 1-0; Fowier (36,pen)
1-1; Warchope (44) 2-1; Warchope (49)
3-1; Fowier (57) 3-2.

Derby County (3-4-1-2); Hoult: Prics, Somac, Laursen; Eranio (Harper, 62), Bohlnen, Powell, Schnoor (Carbonari, 66); Balano (Borbokis, 56); Warchope, Burron, Substitutes not used: Poom (gk).

Christele.

Christie.
Liverpool (3-5-2): James: Song, Staumon (Bjornebye, 24). Babb; Heggern, Gerrard, Redinapp, Berger, Matteot, Owen (Riedle, 46). Fowler, Substituties not steat: Friede (gk), Norme, Leonhardsen.
Bookings: Derby: Scimac (23). Powell (33). Liverpool: Fourier (30).
Refures: G Barber (Pyrford).
Man of the manch, Manchope.
Attendance: 22-913 Joround record.

THE CONJECTURE after this BY GUY HODGSON

match revolved around Arsenal's pluses and minuses. Did Everton the loss of Emmanuel Petit for three matches thanks to his third sending-off of the season wholly negate the victory that kept them within four points of the Premiership leaders, Manchester United? Even Arsene Wenger seemed unsure.

The Arsenal manager described the outcome as "three important points" but then proceeded to bemoan at length the loss of his French midfielder whose two bookable offences had ensured he will miss two Premiership matches and the FA Cup semi-final against United. The double Double has been undermined by an unwanted treble.

Only the previous day Wenger had said the Gunners would need Petit and compatriot Patrick Vieira working in tandem for the rest of the season if they could confidently train their sights on honours this season and the statistics bear him out. Arsenal have

gether

Arsenal

lost just nine Premiership games in the last two seasons and the two Frenchman have started in only four of them to-So Petit's loss for three out

of a potential 11 fixtures is a grevious one, particularly as it is likely to take time after his ban for the Frenchman to tap into his full power. He was making his first start for six weeks and pertinently both his bookings arose because his first touch let him down, causing him to lunge dangerously after the ball.

"The big concern for me is that be doesn't get into the pace of the game," Wenger said. "You could see today that he'd missed some games and his reactions were not right which is why be was sent off. The two yellow cards were not for bad fouls, they were just a little bit late

not dictate Arsenal's fate this season but there was no question the rhythm of Saturday's game was affected by red cards. Arsenal began superbly, took the lead with a goal from

Ray Parlour that had been created by Marc Overmars sublime 50-yard pass and then, when Don Hutchison was sent off, dozed off secure in the knowledge they could win the

game whenever they wanted. Hutchison's crime was elbowing Martin Keown in the face off the ball and as the television and most of the crowd missed the incident the refer-

elbows."

when the Arsenal player had a clear run on goal?

se must be correct although the Everton manager. Walter Smith, added wryly: "There were no physical marks. Hutchison must have soft Whether Mr Rennie re-

mained so for the rest of the aftermoon is debatable because he was booed off the nitch at half and full-time and unfavourable critiques later filled a large part of Radio Five Live's path and if there had to be two

to lament the inconsistencies that littered the legislature of this game. Why, for example, did Tony Adams not receive a second yellow card when be clearly

current climate but it was easy

scythed through Ibrahima Bakayoko from behind when Sepp Blatter and Fifa were encouraging red cards for this offence during the World Cup? How did David Unsworth stay on the pitch when be brought Ray Parlour down in the area

Good sense dictated neither player should go but that quality is singularly absent from the dictates coming from

Fifa and you could bardly detect much leniency in either Hutchison or Petit's dismissals. Follow the letter of the law by all means, but spectators become angry and bewildered when officials pick and choose when to stray off that

Petit's dismissal may or may Six-O-Six. It was difficult to find red cards on Saturday then fault with the sendings-off in the there should have been four. The mathematics also range with the last kick of the equated to the number of match but for Pavel Smicek's

goals because Arsenal's second, scored by Dennis Bergkamp from the penalty partner Alan Smith worked spot was the least their superiority deserved. The champions looked tired, Wenger midfielder David Hopkin to said afterwards and, as he complete the Leeds victory at noted with a smile, "Manchester United keep winning, unfortunately". This week, though. United

have to fly to Milan while Wenger's team have the week off. If tiredness does become a factor, it will favour Arsenal.

factor, it will favour Arsenal.
Even without Petit,
Geals: Parlour (15) 0-1; Bergkamp (68, pen) 0-2.
Eventor (4-4-2): Myhre; Dunne (Grant, 27), Watson, Materazz, Ball; Went Docour, Unsworth, Barmby (Jeffers, 73); Bakayoko (Cadamarten, 73), Huchlson, Substitutes not used: Short, Simonsen (gk).
Arsenal (4-4-2): Seamen, Doom, Kowm, Adams, Winterbarn, Porlour, Vieira, Petit, Overmars (Upson, 87); Bergkamp, Anel-ka (Vinas, 62). Substitutes not used: Kanu, Diawara, Manninger (gk).
Seadings-off: Evertor Hutchison; Arsenal Petit. Bookings: Everton Dacourt, Unsworth; Arsenal Adams,
Reference U Rennie (Sheffield).
Man of the march: Parlour.

### O'Leary's blend of youth and experience continues to mature

flying save.

nicely, and it cannot be long before even be is willing to place the Premier Cru appellation oo them. Goals: Hasselbaink [4] 0-1; Hopkin [72] 0-2.

0-2. Sheffletd Wednesday (4-4-2): Smr.ck., Atherton, Thome. Walker. Hinchcliffe; Sonet; (Briscoe, 32), Rudu. Jonk. Alexandersson; Booth, Humphrey; Japago. 49). Substitutes not used: Newsome. Ste-Substitutes not used: Newsome. Ste-fanour. Pressman [gk].
Leads United (4-4-2): Martim. Haaland, Woodgate, Radebe (Wetherall, BS). Hatte: Boayer, Batty, Hopkin, Newell (Norsten, BT); Hasselbank, Smith Substitutes set steet McPhat, Jones. Robinson [gk] Referen: G Poll [Iring]. Bookings: Wednesday: Atherton, Thome, Booth, Agogo, Hinchchite. Man of the march: Hasselbank. Actundance: 28,142

### Forest's dream survives BY KIERAN DALY

"Steve Stone is a good play-

er and the club got good money

for him. He was always destined

to go and good luck to him," said

Forest answered the doom-

mongers at Wimbledon, where

time now and if we keep pick-

Nottingham Forest

flop again."

Rogers.

THE MIRACLE required by Ron Atkinson is slightly smaller after a spirited Nottingham Forest inflicted Wimbledon's second home defeat in seven days. Goals from Alan Rogers, Dougie Freedman and Neil Shipperley and a string of saves by Mark Crossley earned the Midlanders a rare away win and kept their faint bopes of Pre-

miership survival flickering. Rogers believes the sale of Steve Stone galvanised the spirit in the Forest dressingroom. Rogers, whose cross drifted into the net to set Forest on course for a win, said none of the players had even discussed relegation.

He said the players would fight to the last to preserve their Premiership status, and the sale of Stone had made them even more determined. "Sometimes things like that can give you a spur and possi-

and we've got to take it on

against Middlesbrough on Sat-

the former Crystal Palace duo Dougle Freedman and Neil Shipperley both scored on their return to Selhurst Park to seal the 3-1 win. The three points gave the strugglers a glimmer of Premiership survival, although Blackburn, Charlton bly that's what happened at and Coventry all picked up Wimbledon," said Rogers. "We points at the bottom. had to go for the game out Rogers said: "The win has there. We had a new formation been coming for quite a long

ing up points like that I think we can do it. No one in our changing room is thinking of relegation at all." The Forest manager, Ron

urday and make sure we don't Atkinson, shouted himself boarse on the touchline in the excitement of the team's fourth win The former Tranmere wingback, who cost Forest £2m in of the season. But Big Ron still the summer of 1997, wished forhas a mountain to climb if he mer team-mate Stone well in wants to repeat his now-famous Premiership escape act. his new career, which started Even if he fails, the players with a 1-0 defeat at Tottenham.

at Forest would love to see him stay at the City Ground and try to rebuild the side. Rogers said: "He's a good

manager and we'd like to see Ron stay, but we are just taking every game as it comes. We must finish in as high a position as possible and that's our only

as possible and that's our only aim at the moment."
Goals: Rosers (21) D-1: Freedman (59) D-2: Gayle (79) 1-2: Shipperley (84) 1-3: Milmbladon: Suffixan: Lunningham, Kimble, Perry (Books, 59), Thatther, Earle, Roberts Hauel, 72), Gayle, Ardley, Kennedy (M Highes, 72), Hartson, Substitutes set used: Heald.
Moeringham Forest: Crossley, Louispean, Rogers, Chertie, Shipperley, Johnson (Bort-Williams, 46), Freedman, Palmer, Edwards, Mattisson, Van Hoofdonk, Substitutes set used: Beasant, Stensaas, Bonalair, Darcheville.
Reference K Burge (Bonypandy).
Mans of the match: Alen Rogers, Artendance: 12, 149.

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SNAPSHOT

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ERMATTE STATISTICS



### THAT WAS THE **WEEKEND THAT WAS**

EDITED BY JON CULLEY

DOUGIE FREEDMAN



Stoke chairman faces fans' red card protest

THERE SEEMS no stopping the militant football fans of the Potteries in their desire to make the public's voice heard loud and clear.

After the flat-cap march organised by Port Vale supporters in protes ... Lie sacking of the ....b's manager, John Rudge, felle v sufferers at neighbouring Stoke are going into the demonstration business on a still larger scale.

Encouraged to vent their wrath by the Oatcake fanzine, Stoke fans are to launch a campaign to oust chairman

IN THE commercial age rising prices for match tickets and

cluh merchandise have been

a major cause of fans' com-

This is all in the cause, the

leading clubs explain, of meet-

ing the massive wage hills

highest level, an argument

which would suggest that any club aiming for the top would

want to squeeze every penny

apply to Huddersfield Town, de-

spite the search of manager

Peter Jackson for new players

who might reinforce his club's

attempt to reach the Premier-

ship. In the coming weeks, the

Terriers will be giving away

more than 7,000 replica shirts,

worth more than £200,000.

This does not, however,

from their faithful.

Clubs greedy? Don't

put your shirt on it

necessary to compete at the Jackson's promotion bid.

sive show of red cards at but has since fallen away, detomorrow's match against Second Division leaders Fulham at the Britannia Stadium.

The Oatcake plans to distribute up to 5,000 cards before the game, to be brandished towards the directors'

Oatcake editor Martin Smith hopes it will show the three-man Stoke board that fans nurse a growing anger over poor results and the lack of transfer funds for manager Brian Little to invest in a team that several times led

The club, which sponsors a

Newspapers in Education

scheme in conjunction with

the local Examiner newspa-

per, hopes the gesture to

pupils at some 230 schools will

bring more of them to the

McAloine Stadium to cheer on

one will also benefit from a cut-

price offer for the home match

against Swindon on Easter

Monday. "The hope is that all

the lucky recipients will turn

up wearing their shirts," the

club's public relations man-

lationship with the children in

our area so that when they talk

about football they talk about

Huddersfield Town with pas-

sion and pride,"

We would like to build a re-

ager, Dale Tempest, said.

Each pupil who receives

spite Saturday's win at Luton. "We have had 15 years of gradual decline," Smith said. "But now what we have is ter-

minal decline. "People look at the new modern stadium and a highprofile manager and assume everything is fine, but there are real problems here and we need to find someone out there who can help us.

"It is 27 years since we last won a major trophy and the danger now is that we are sinking in to the lower leagues for good."

### KEY NUMBERS

The defeats for Manchester City's bogey team, Oldham, in eight visits to Maine Road. They won there on Saturday.

The Premiership players with 10 or more cautions this season after Chris Sutton was booked on Saturday. Mark Hughes tops the list with 14.

The years Sheffield United had waited for their second-ever win at Tranmere, which they secured on Saturday.

### I TOLD YOU SO

Manchester United is an important game, but not the most important game. Before the game, if you already have three points, you're more relaxed, and that's vhy it was important to win at Nottingham Forest

- Rand Gullit, looking ahead to United's visit to St James' Park. So it was OK to lose, you see.

### PREMIERSHIP TEAM OF THE WEEK

RAY PARLOUR

ROY KEANE -

RIO FERDINAND

MARK VIVIEN-FOE

DAVID GINOLA

**ALAN ROGERS** 

MARK CROSSLEY

ROLAND NILSSON

JAAP STAM

### Missing... making it... and mistaken



SAMASSI ABOUT WEST HAM UNITED

The 25-year-old former French Under-21 striker became a cult figure at Upton Park after his £300,000 move from Cannes in late 1997 but has slipped well down West Ham's long pecking order, A move to Bradford last year fell through when Abou was found to have malaria and a month on loan to Ipswich did not bring a permanent transfer. But Harry Redknapp still hopes to offload him before transfer deadline day.



**ENZO MARESCA** WEST BROMWICH ALBION

Regarded as an outstanding prospect at home in Italy, Alhion's 19-year-old midfielder captained the Italian Under-18 side, having made his club debut for Cagliari at the age of 17. On Milan's books as an 11year-old, he made his unlikely move to West Brom after asking his agent to find an English chib and deciding he liked The Hawthorns. Broke into the side last September and is becoming a first-team regular.



The consistent Middlesbrough defender should not take offence if the Riverside crowd seem to be chanting "Get him off" whenever he touches the ball. More likely they're shouting "Get 'em off" on account of his startling resemblance to the disrobing Full Monty star,



### For Schmeichel all roads lead to Roma

PETER SCHMEICHEL, Manchester United's goalkeeper, is poised for a "dream move" to Roma, according to the People. who report that the Serie A side have made the Dane their No 1 target after Mark Bosnich's wage demands put them off the Aston Villa man. Villa, meanwhile, could

incur more displeasure from Coventry, who are already furious over an alleged illegal approach for George Boateng, by launching a £7m attempt to reunite the striker Noel Whelan with his ex-Highfield Road colleague Dion Dublin. The News of the World says Villa's manager, John Gregory, is a big admirer of Whelan, whose contract expires at the end of next season

The Mail on Sunday. meanwhile, says Villa, who tried to domp Stan Collymore on Nottingham Forest as part of the Steve Stone deal, are ready to offload Paul Merson if West Ham will accept £5m plus the former Arsenal and Middlesbrough forward for Frank Lampard. Michael Ball.

The People's "exclusive" report of a renewed Leeds hid for Forest's Pierre van Hooljdonk appears also in the News of the World, who say Forest are ready now to accept offer of Lim from David O'Leary that they once turned down. The same paper suggests Scot Gemmill will join Derby once his City Ground contract expires in May

The suggestion that Sunderland's 20-year-old forward, Michael Bridges, will soon give up the contest with Kevin Phillips and Niall Quinn for first-team football and leave the Stadium of Light makes news in the Express and Sunday Mirror, who list Everton, Newcastle and Manchester United as possible destinations for the £5m-rated player.

The Fulham defender Chris Coleman and their striker Barry Hayles are being checked by Liverpool and Tottenham respectively. according to the People, who also report Liverpool interest in the Everton defender.

SEEN AND HEARD

Who's kidding now?: "I think the title is beyond us now. We are not good enough to compete with the best teams at the moment" - Gianluca Vialli, having pledged to stay out of the Premiership's kidology wars, tries to lure Man-chester United and Arsenal into a false sense of security His master's voice: "Ron is very excited about the win but he cannot talk to you about it because his voice has gone" - Forest No 2 Peter Shreeves explains Ron Atkinson's absence from the Selhurst Park press conference (although oddly his vocal chords recovered for the TV microphones). In-depth analysis: "There's no two ways about it - we were absolute crap" - Danny Wilson outlines the finer points of Sheffield Wednesday's performance against Leeds.

### FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP 5-game form PI Pts GD W D L F A W D L F A Mest recent our right Upcoming matches Sanday Elector (4): 5 Apr Winterbox (4): 17 for Stoff West (4): 25 Apr Leads (4). Man Utd 10 4 1 35 15 7 5 2 30 15 MINIMUM Setterday Country (fig. 3 Apr Southerpain (A) 6 Apr Backburn (fig. 19 Apr Wintedon (fig. Arsenal MWDWW concluse Astern Villa (A); 3 Aper Charles (A); 3 Aper cents (r 1; 10 Aper Wintelston (A). Chelsea 28 53 +18 9 5 1 21 9 6 2 20 14 IWWCIN Saturday Doby Pt; 3 Apr Natm Fores Pt; 5 Apr Chates (A); 12 Apr Liverpool (1). Leeds 9 3 2 23 6 6 4 22 20 WWWWW Scanley Chites ##: 2 Aprilles Hace ##; 5 Apr Lebester #4; 10 April Scanteropton #4. +5 8 2 4 25 21 Aston Villa 4 6 5 14 13 +3 7 5 3 18 15 4 6 4 13 13 29 43 -7 8 3 3 20 19 4 4 7 12 20 Sacratal Mercasite \$4.2 Apr Aster 18 (4); 3 West Ham Apr Creditor († ), 10 Apr Lebresto († ). Saturday Bestburt (4); 3 Apr Mar Ltd (+ 1); 5 Apr McChebro (4); 10 Apr Crebso († ), 29 40 -8 7 5 3 19 15 3 5 6 14 26 Wimbledon Apriliation #1:5 Apriliatin Forest Pt 12 Apriliatis (N) 17 Apriliation Was #3 Liverpool 28 39 +15 7 4 2 33 16 4 2 9 19 21 1 10 Tottenham 0 7 6 2 24 17 2 6 6 10 17 Standay West for 19th 3 Apr Deby (4th 5 Apr Sentant 9th 17 Apr Design (4th 29 38 -1 7 3 5 22 19 3 5 6 16 20 11 Newcastle WLDWL . 12 Middlesbro 28 36 -2 5 8 1 19 10 3 4 7 18 29 TTOTA 13 Sheff Wed 29 35 +3 6 3 6 17 12 4 2 8 18 20 WWILL. 14 Leicester 28 34 -9 5 4 5 19 21 3 6 5 9 16 TTTAND elandary Amerik (4): 3 Apr Stell Villed (4): 5 Apr Containing (4): 11 Apr Seeson (4): 15 Coventry -9 6 5 4 20 16 2 2 10 11 24 LLWWD. Senday Min Utd (A): 3 Apr Lucycol (A): 5 Apr Sheft Wed (4): 11 Apr Coversy (4). 16 Everton 29 31 -10 3 8 4 9 9 4 2 8 13 23 Aprildes \$1.5 Aprilds for \$1.50 Apr Accidence \$4.17 Aprilds \$15. 29 28 -7 4 5 5 18 13 2 5 8 15 27 17 Charlton MADID 18 Blackburn 29 27 -12 5 3 6 16 18 Secureday Short Hed Dit 3 April Ascral | 1 5 -Per Coverny (Ft. 10 April Ascra Villa (Ft. 19 Southampton 29 26 -29 6 2 6 21 22 1 3 11 6 34 WILWI 29 20 -31 1 6 7 12 26 rday Milliotro (1); 3 Aprilents (4); 5 Apr 3 2 10 14 31 LLDUW erpool #4: 10 Apr Coby PQ. NATIONWIDE FIRST DIVISION

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### FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP THIRD DIVISION 3 Camb Utd. Hull City ...3 Liverpool .... O Arsenal ..... 1 Charlton ..... 7 Man Utd ... .....D Leed LEADING SCORERS NATIONWIDE LEAGUE FIRST DIVISION FIRST DIVISION Birminghom — West Brom — 0 Bolton — 2 QFR — 1 Bradford — A Norwick — 1 Bury — 0 Bernsley — 0 Grimsby — 0 Sunderland — 2 Ipswick — 3 Huddersfield — D Qaford — 0 Watford — 0 Port Vale — 1 Stockport — 1 Portsmouth — 1 Crystal Palace — 1 Swindos — 1 Crystal Palace — 1 Swindos — 2 Transsere — 2 Sheff Utd — 3 Wolves — 3 Bristol City — 0 LEADING SCORERS

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FOOTBALL RESULTS

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SCOTTISH CUP FIFTH ROUND

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SCREINFOX DIRECT LEAGUE Premier Division: Keynsham Rown v Bactovel (vol. PONTRIS LEAGUE Premier Division: Blackburn v Man Utd (7.0): Sunderland v Aston Villa (7.0).

Manchester United that he is

ready and waiting to face them

in their European Cup quarter-

final second leg on Wednesday.

Year has been troubled by ten-

dinitis problems all season but

made his first start for In-

ternazionale in two months in

the 2-2 draw with city rivals

"I may not have the match

victory

Middlesbrough

later Paul Jones misjndged

Robert Stockdale's long ball

and Ricard, without a goal since

the 3-2 victory at Manchester

United on 19 December, glee-

minutes gone when Southamp-

ton failed to clear Neil Maddi-

son's corner and Vickers

hammered the ball home for his

didn't get two or three more at

the end of the day," said Dave

Jones, the Southampton man-

ager, "I don't know why we

didn't seem up for it, we had a

great opportunity to get out of

the bottom three today

Victory was assured with 63

fully ended his drought,

first goal of the season. "We were lucky that they

enjoyed their first Premiership

win of the year to ease their rel-

egation fears - while increasing

those of Southampton. A simi-

lar result at Nottingham Forest

next Saturday would leave Boro

just three points short of man-

ager Bryan Robson's safety

Beck and Hamilton Ricard -

their first in 1999 - at the end

of the first half put the

Teessiders firmly in the driving

seat, and a third from defend-

er Steve Vickers on 63 minutes

Southampton, still second

bottom, missed an opportunity

to climb out of the drop zone

while Boro halted an alarming

slump in form. They had col-

lected just three points from a

possible 27 going into the match. Robson breathed a sigh of re-

lief at his side's first three-

point haul of 1999. Suspensions

robbed Boro of four key players:

Goals from strikers Mikkel

target of 42.

sealed the win.

Milan on Saturday night

The twice World Player of the



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down The same paper as good same threat the same paper as good formula will in herity once has City Good could not express in May.

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is Villa, who Phris Coleman and the Stem Lally nam Forest Show Stone y to afflued deabrough or Lammard TEN AND HEARD

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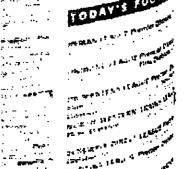
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THE INDEPENDENT

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Striker Barry Hayles at henry checked by Lingson and Toltenham respected seconding to the People the mental-ut l'actionimes in the Exerton defends

peres presentation and principle for the figures of

Charge Wilson out they the first pomise entities in been respectively a second finished

1 .. . . . .

Andy Townsend, the captain, Gary Pallister, Paul Gascoigne and Mark Summerbell, all forced to sit the game out. But the win came at a high price with midfielder Phil لسا 1984 نا Stamp ruled out for a month after damaging a hamstring. Stamp limped off with 20 min-

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ال ، موسودي :

I negles -

Robson was disappointed to have lost one of his most innuential performers on the day. "You haven't scored first in a

game, you haven't won a match, and the longer that goes on, the more the confidence goes out," he said. "But today's results puts that behind us and the lads can look forward to the rest of the season now and play with that bit more confidence. "I was pleased with the lads

### OVERSEAS ROUND-UP

chester," said the Brazilian yesterday, who played just the first half of the derby. "Last night's game wasn't a test. It was a real match. It was difficult but I did my duty. I'm pleased with my performance, I'm gradually getting better and I don't feel any pain any more.

"The team are playing well at rhythm back yet, but I'm ready the moment and we're creating to give everything to beat Man- a lot of chances. We're also

match against Manchester, who are a great side, and are very quick on the break

Ronaldo raring to go against United

'Tm hoping to play for the whole match. It will be difficult to do so, but I'm not ruling it out. I'm certain I can go out there and do my job well. I'm convinced that the rest of the team are going to do the same. They are very, very motivated

This is going to be the most important match of our season. Our pride is at stake and we

must show that we are up to the a commanding lead when they mark. I'm sure both sides will have chances to score, and also that it will be a great game possibly with a lot of goals. We have to accept they might score - we've conceded goals in all of

our recent games. "My presence alone won't be enough - we all have to do better because they won't be frightened, not of me, or of any other player."

Yesterday Serie A leaders Lazio blew the chance to open were held to a goalless draw by bottom club Empoli. But the Rome club still stretched their lead to five points over Milan, Parma and Fiorentina.

Fiorentina wasted their chance to cut Lazio's lead by crashing 4-1 at Venezia, Uruguayan Alvaro Recoba hitting his first hat-trick for the club. Parma beat Bari 2-1 while Juventus, a further seven points adrift in fifth place, beat Udinese 2-1.

nitana kept alive their hopes of staying in the top flight with victories over Cagliari (1-0), Perugia (3-0) and Sampdoria (2-0).

Nantes moved nearer to winning the French Cup for the first time in 20 years with a 3-1 victory at Metz to reach the quarter-finals. They are the only first division team left in the competition. In the league, Monaco, chasing a place in next year's Champions' League, were held 1-1 at lowly Sochaux.

### **OUTSIDE EDGE**

### Man-marked by an anorak

AREYOU like me? Hate blank know... We can? Tomorrow Saturdays? Those awful barren weekends when your team's no longer in the Cup. Or the ones they've taken to introducing prior to midweek internationals. Horrendous, aren't they?

Some say it provides the perfect opportunity to support your local non-League side. And, I dare say, a totally genuine football supporter would do just that. Enter into the spirit of footy and so on.

Well, to he quite honest, I can't be arsed.

Don't get me wrong: I have tried it. The problem is, it's ended to backfire. True. there can be distinct compensations. The reduced chances of a coronary in the absence of Liverpool's back five, to name just one. All in all, though, il's not the same. You just can't get as involved as when it's your own lot.

I liken it to those tedious school Christmas plays in which your friends' kids are involved. You know the sort. You pretend you're having a whale of a time, when all you really want is get to the pub or go home and see the smiling Chris Tarrant roasting his contestants on the spit. Or perhaps even watch

the entire 10 seconds of Stig Bjornebye's Greatest Crosses video. But no. You're strick with it whether you like it or not. Feigned enthusiasm or a good kicking from the missus. Either way, you know you're "Oh aye, Yeah, thanks for

inviting us. Loved every second. The kids were brilliant, "Best bit? Phew, you've got me there. Difficult one. 1

suppose when your Enya dropped the baby Jesus on his head. Yeah, I enjoyed that, Kids, eh? Who'd have them? "In fact, it's a pity we can't

see the whole thing again, you

"Er... actually... er... isn'l that insurance guy coming tomorrow night, pet?"

Mind you, boredom and indifference aren't the only reasons for not going to watch non-League football. I mean, when you do go, you izvari ably end up next to the real amateur football nut.

You must have met him The flat cap that's survived more pigeon attacks than Sammy Nelson's column. The muffler that first saw action in the Crimea. The blotchy fawn gabardine that could find its way home on its own.

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This guy has not watched n top flight game since Alf Common's £1,000 transfer ui 1905. What's more, from the smell coming from his coat. the cheese sandwich he took with him that day is still in his pocket. Despite it all, though, this fellow recognises a soft target when he sees one.

Haven't seen you here "Nah."

"Liverpool's game off, hen?"

"Can't stand those big jessies, you know. Now these fellas here are real footballers. Love the game. Play for huttons, they do." And you can't gel away

from him, no matter how hard you try. You walk right round the pitch and he's with you all the way. Babbling down your ear, It's like Nobby Stiles marking Eusebio at Wembley: Before long people start noticing. Even the players and the ref are getting suspicious. It's at that point you realise

your decision to wear your full length Ron Atkinson mac was a big mistake. Clearly it gives off the wrong vibes, Especially next to his. These days, you see, non-League footy is strict-

ALAN EDGE

### Robson revels in MIDDLESBROUGH FINALLY BY DAMIAN SPELLMAN today. They knew it was a pressure game, it was a game we couldn't afford to lose. That's even more pleasing when you look back at the performance. A few of my senior pros really stood up to it and enjoyed the challenge today. To me, that's good players who can do it when they are under pressure." Boro were camped inside the Southampton box on 44 minutes when Gianluca Festa's cross came back off the inside of a post and Beck slotted home. Little more than a minute

Southampton's Mark Hughes (right) gets to grips with Middlesbrough's Robbie Mustoe yesterday

Adebola revival prompts derby dominance

im ireated themselves to

the bottom three today."

Goals: Beck [44] 1-0; Ricard [45] 2-0; Vickers [62] 3-0.

Buddiesbrough: Schwarzer; Stockdale, Festa, Vickers Cooper, Gordon, Stamp (Deane, 71), Mustoe, Maddison, Ricard (Zampbel, 83), Beck, Substitutes not stadt (Kinder, Harrisco, Beresford (gk), Southampton: Jones; Dodd, Lindelson, Michael, College (Roles, 60), Marsden, Kachloul, Le Tissier, Hughes, Beattle (Osternstad, 88), Substitutes not used: Bridge, Hiley, Moss (gk).

Roferene: M Reed (Birmingham).

Booldings: Southampton: Le Tissier, Monlou, Marsden, Kachloul, Man of the marche Ricard.

Attendance: 33,387. a crushing halt and they si-

IN FRONT of their biggest home BY CONRAD LEACH

West Bromwich Albion multaneously dropped out of the play-off zone. And this re-

sult left the West Bromwich manager, Denis Smith, serinamed the Blues but it was the ously doubting his players' visitors who went home feeling commitment to reaching the play-offs this season, as he remarked: "Some players have got to look at themselves and

That was in stark contrast to Birmingham's approach which, Francis was quick to praise his guaranteed a play-off place. after a subdued first 20 minutes, produced so many chances that with a shade more luck saw him lose his place in the ball home from 12 yards, but it they would have at least team. He and Peter Ndlovu matched the seven they scored

at Oxford in December. pleased than most was the de- had done him good, but on this stroyer-in-chief Dele Adebola, evidence be is unlikely to be left babwean cut inside the defence

has now scored four times

reiuvenated striker, saying: "Dele is over the slump that were quite brilliant."

Adebola, 23, himself admitted The man who was more afterwards that being left out

ask if they want to floish in the ager, Trevor Francis, but who ingham extend their run to only later Adebola simply charged since his recall three games ago one defeat in their last 15 down the middle of the pitch League games and virtually

guaranteed a play-off place.

For his first goal Adebola nurned his marker to slot the bail home from 12 yards, hut it was not until five minutes after the break that Ndlovu doubled the lead. Controlling Simon Charlton's defence-splitting 50-yard diagonal pass, the Zimbabwean cut inside the defence to shoot home and 11 minutes

Grainger completed the visitors' misery with a tap-in.

Goals: Adebola [23] 3-10; Grainger (88) 4-0.

Blandsham Ckey: [4-4-2] Poole: Buss, Octonson, Charleson, Edgest, Hyde.

O'Connor (McCarthy, 53], Grainger: Adebola (87) Notices (Printing, 53), Notices (Printing, 53), Notices (Printing, 53), Notices (Printing, 54), Notic turned his marker to slot the was not until five minutes after the break that Ndlovu doubled the lead. Controlling Simon Charlton's defence-splitting 50yard diagonal pass, the Zimrecently dropped by his man- out again as he helped Birm- to shoot home and 11 minutes

and calmly scored. Martin Grainger completed the visi-

### Fine for 'sleepy' Fowler Walker's costly miss

centre of another row as Liver- bie Fowler overslept and missed ternazionale fans risk being sold pool's squabbling season con- a training session organised for around 10,000 forged tickets for tinues. The England striker last Sunday, at which point he overslept and missed training telephoned [Houllier] to apolodays after his public spat with gise for his absence." Graeme Le Saux.

Fowler scored twice

feat of Derby on Saturday but Bridge, where he is alleged to has been fined for his lie-in. Manager Gerard Houllier was reported in one Sunday newspaper to have fined him a week's wages, about £32,000, though sources close to the club suggest

A club spokesman said: "Rob-Fowler still faces FA action

Fowler scored twice in the de- after the incident at Stamford Rangers chairman David

have taunted Le Saux. Murray, has launched a bid to buy an English club, according to a report. Murray made contact with Manchester City tothat the figure was much less, wards the end of last year about

Manchester United and In- DUNDEE UNITED must by now their Champions' League match at the San Siro on Wednesday according to Italian police. Inter have warned fans not to buy tickets from touts before the game. Police will use sophisticated checks at the turnstiles.

The call from Inter came two days after police in Naples arrested three men and confiscated printing and computer equipment used for making forgeries, along with 5,000 counterfeit match tickets.

believe their name will be engraved on to the Tennents Scottish Cup in May writes David McKinney. The Premier League side have struggled against lower league opposition in their three ties and if they

progress to a semi-final meet-

played six games in the com-

petition. Paul Sturrock's side have been forced to replay every tie so far and on Saturday they came within inches of going out to First Division Ayr United.

### ROUND-UP

Andy Walker, the former Celtic and Bolton striker who scored twice from the penalty spot against Kilmarnock in an earlier round, saw his late spotkick diverted on to the crossbar ing with Celtic they will have by Sieb Dykstra, the Dundee United goalkeeper. The game finished goalless and will be replayed tomorrow.

Rangers, meanwhile, took another step towards the Premier League title with a 2-1 win over Motherwell. Goals from

SILK CUT CHALLENGE CUP

QUARTER-FINALS

CUARTER-FINALS

(Soturday)

Cascinsford (8) 30, Salford (4) 10. Cascinford: When Rogers 2. Davis, Maloncy Raper, Goals Ort 5. Salford: By Broadbest; Goals Ort 5. Salford: By Broadbest; Goals Blateley 3. [5,236]

Bradford: Sies Vallons 4. Boyle. Forstrue, Naylor, R Paul, Sprucz, Watters; Goals H Paul S. Biarrington (0) 15

Bradford: Sies Vallons 2. (10,430)

London (24) 54, Whitelestern (6) 6. London: Tries Offiah 5. Beazley, Edwards, Flerning, Trieu, Young Goals Watton 7. Whitelestern (6) 6. London: Tries Offiah 5. Beazley, Edwards, Flerning, Trieu, Young Goals Watton 7. Whitelestern (7) (6) 6. London: Tries Offiah 5. Beazley, Edwards, Flerning, Trieu, Young Goals Watton 7. Whitelestern (1,598)

Rod Wallace and Jonatan Johansson gave Andy Goram no chance on his return to librox. Although Mark Gower, the new signing from Tottenham, pulled a goal back for Motherwell, Rangers were always in control.

Celtic recorded a comprehensive 5-1 victory away to Aberdeen yesterday, Henrik Larsson and Mark Viduka both scoring twice, but they are still 10 points behind Rangers.

Following Airdrie's 2-0 win MacDonald, resigned.

RUGBY LEAGUE RESULTS AND TABLE

over Strangaer, their manager of eight years' standing, Alex

NORTHERN FORD

Devestury (20) 25, Keighley (2) S. Devestury (20) 25, Keighley (2) S. Devestury: Tries Flynn 3, Godrey 2, Graham, Hicks: Goals Eaton 3: Drop goal Eaton, Keighley: Tries Ramshaw; Goals Wood 2, (1,010) PREMIERSHIP

AXA SPONSORED F.A.CUP SEMI-FINALS

VIP TICKETS TO THE

Over the last four months, leading football writers and broadcasters have been voting for their all time FA. Cup great eleven. Now all the votes are in. The independent can exclusively raveal the twelve winners of the AXA F.A.Cup Legend Awards. They are

Jim Montgomery Billy Wright Alan Hansen Danny Blanchflower Dave MacKay Stanley Matthews Liam Brady Eric Cantona Ricki Villa lan Rush

(Sunderland 1973) (Walves 1949) (Liverpool 1986,88,89) (Spurs 1961,62) (Sours 1961,62) (Blackpool 1948,51,53) (Arsenal 1978,79,80) (Man Utd 1994,96) (Spurs 198!) (Liverpool 1986,89,92) (Blackpool, 1949,51,53)

Manager: Bob Stekpe

(Sunderland 1973)

All you have to do to win the tickers to one of the EA. Cup remi-finals is to look at the above AXA Legends XI and select the three players that you think received the most votes from the panel. Phone the number below and leave the names together with your name, full address and daytime telephone number on the line. The first two correct entries randomly selected will win a pair of tickets to one of the AXA sporsored F.A. Cup Semi-Finals, including travel and overnight accommodation if required.

CALL 0906 470 0438

### Christensen's title

WORLD NO one Peter Gade Christensen won his first All England title yesterday with a hard-fought 15-11, 7-15, 15-10 victory over the Indonesian teenager Taufik Hidayat.

The experienced Dane had to at, seeded nine, had served notice in the past few months year-old Hidayat, the youngest finalist in the men's singles since the Open era began.

Christensen edged clear from 11-11 in the first game, but trailed in the second. Hidayat recovered from 0-5 in the decider to level at 6-6, but Chris- at the age of 16 in 1968. Clearly, tensen won a number of key he is the find of the tournament.

Metch 6 (Jackpot)

Match 4

### BADMINTON

points as he stretched away to the title. It was the third time this decade the championship had gone to Denmark. Hidayat, seeded nine, had served that he was improving quickly.

youngest player in All England history to reach the men's singles final. Only his compatriot Rudy Hartono stands ahead of him after reaching his first final

Hidayat is the second

SATURDAY'S LOTTERY UPDATE.

Draw date: 13/3/99. The winning numbers: 1, 2, 15, 17, 24, 44. Bonus number: 22. Total Seles: £54,193,854. Prize Fund: £24,387,234 (45% of ticket sales).

Maybe, just maybe. THE NATIONAL LOTTERY in the event of any discrepancy in the above, the data committed in Cameiot control computer system shall provail.

NO. OF WINNERS

**a40** 

1,019,519

1,073,719

### THE WOMEN'S Head of the

River Race, held on the Tideway in London on Saturday, was Dot Blackie at seven, behind won by half of the women's national squad racing as Marlow finished second.

Under their chief coach, women have moved up a gear. Mostly this is due to Spracklen's drive and skills, although he has been blessed with a group of women who are big. strong and obstinate enough to win at the highest level. Marlow had the edge with 2 and Senior 3.

£1,475,972

**Marlow storm home** 

her silver medal pairs partner Cath Bishop at stroke and with Rowing Club. The other half the single sculler Guin Batten at six. They were 39 seconds ahead of Tideway Scullers Mike Spracklen, the British School, the first genuine club

Behind them gaps narrowed with Belvoir, the first of 17 foreign clubs, finishing in fourth place in 19min 18sec. Cambridge University Women's Boat Club won both the Senior

£7,379,860

£1,418,760

£3.093.488

£10,195,190

seconds' duration of the sumo bout between grand champion . Takanohana and Kotonishiki in Osaka yesterday. Bouts usually last 5 to 10 seconds.

### TODAY'S NUMBER

80

The number of

# Hicks: Goate Earon 3: Drop geal Eaton. Reightey: Tries Romshaw. Goats Wood 2. (1,010) Demonster (8) 20. Basing (5) 29. When Alle Goufbourne. Kert. Southermood, Summerit: Goats Creaser 2. Bathey: Tries Price 2. Ways 2. Flyate, Goats Price 4: Brop goal Jackson. (741) Humslet (10) 14. Half MR (16) 26. Humslet: Tries Invin, Walter: Goats Frec 7: Brencher 3. Half MR Tries Goets Fetcher 3. Half MR (16) 26. Humslet: Tries Invin, Walter: Goats Frec 8: Tries Reschadate. Tries Burgess. Fitzgerald. Hilton, Knowles: Goats Frec 3. Leight Tries Ingram 3. Felirciough 2. Dean, Rendrick. Murray: Goats O Pirctil 4. (1,203) Work (and Wilders Examples: Trias Pos. Ingram 3. Felirciough 2. Dean, Rendrick. Murray: Goats O Pirctil 4. (1,203) Worfschopton (14) 22. Brannier (4) 16. Worfschopton (14) 22. Brannier (4) 16. Worfschopton (14) 122. Brannier (4) 16. Worfschopton (14) 123. Brannier (4) 16. Worfschopton (14) 123. Brannier (4) 16. Worfschopton (14) 123. Brannier (4) 16. Worfschopton (15) 123. Brannier (15) 16. Worfschopton (15) 123. Brannier (15) 16. Worfschopton (15) 123. Brannier (15) 16. Worfschopton (15) 124. Brannier (15) 16. Worfschopton (15) 124. Brannier (15) 16. Worfschopton (15) 126. Brannier (15) 16. Worfschopton (15) 126. Brannier (15) 16. Worfschopton (15) 126. Brannier (15) 16. Worfschopton (15) 16. Worfschopton (15) 16. Worfschopton (15) 17. Worfschopton (15)

Cheltenham Festival: The Champion Hurdle favourite is being spoken of in the same breath as legends of the turf

# Can Istabraq leap to greatness?

JUST AS each generation grows up with its own fashions, so too does each new brood of punters cherish the horses of its youth. Whether they wore winklepickers, kaftans or safety pins. everyone likes to think that the champions of their own golden age were the finest of them all.

It is why the windows will steam up in bars across Cheltenham this evening, whenever someone dares to suggest that Istabraq could be the greatest horse ever to jump a timber hurdle. The real oldtimers will sit up straight and remember Hatton's Grace and Sir Ken, who both won three Champion Hurdles in succession in the 1950s. At the next table, the post-War baby boomers may put the case for Persian War, another triplechampion from the late 1960s.

But it is the forty-somethings and insist that the hurdlers of the 1970s have never been surpassed before or since. Even punters too young to have backed them will know the names and the stories - Night Nurse, Monksfield and Sea Pigeon, dual champions all, and almost contemporaries. Between 1976 and 1981, no other horse could get near them at Cheltenham, and of the champions since, to most punters' minds, only See You Then might have fared any better.

Until now. Twelve months ago, the cheers for Istabraq started when he was still a speck at the top of the distant hill so easily was he cantering away from his Champion Hurdle field. He is a very short price not simply to win tomorrow's 70th running of the hurdling championship, but to do so by at least seven lengths. He will (probably) become the first dual winner of the Champion Hurdle since See You Then, who won three between 1985 and 1987. Finding a place for Istabraq

among the greats of earlier eras depends, inevitably, on your point of view. But if there is one person who has had a very good look at most of the leading hurdlers of the last 25 years, it is Jonjo O'Neill, who won a Champion Hurdle on Sea Pigeon, beating Monksfield into second, and also rode form rating, following the 14th Night Nurse on several occasions. His thoughts may come was 172, just 10lb shy of Night bating society.

"In my honest opinion, Sea Pigeon was the best of them (in performance which his supthe 1970sl, because he had so much speed," O'Neill said yes- And even if he does not quite terday. "He won two Champion mark himself down as the pre-Hurdles, he should have won eminent hurdler of the centuthree and possibly could have ry, the latest generation of had four.

"But I think Istabraq is a bit special. He is as good, if not better and I can't see anything else winning on Tuesday."

GREG  $\mathbf{WOOD}$ 

That said, O'Neill also feels that "if Sea Pigeon was around now, he'd win six Champion Hurdles, because they don't go up the hill twice [the route of the race has changed and the ground is always good (due to vastly improved drainage]. He'd have the ideal conditions. He was just born 20 years too early, and so was L"

But such is his respect for Istabraq that if there were a championship in the Twilight Zone with both horses entered and in their prime, and O'Neill had his pick, you suspect he might opt for the current cham-

ride him any way," he said. "You can make the running if you want to, or drop him out last, because he's got such a good attitude. Sea Pigeon had to be ridden to suit him. If you arrived too soon, or the race you were in trouble. He should Champion Hurdle he ran in, but I got there too soon on him. When you've got a horse that's adaptable, you've got the real

If O'Neill is a little partial in his opinion of Sea Pigeon, few would blame him. Supporters of Night Nurse, however, will point out that his best Timeform rating, 182, is the highest ever awarded to a hurdler. He also recorded 20 victories in the space of just two championship seasons, in 1976 and 1977. These are difficult numbers to argue with, and it is also worth remembering that Night Nurse was top-class over fences too. finishing second to Little Owl in the 1981 Gold Cup and winning valuable handicaps including the Mandarin Chase.

The great unknown, of course, is what Istabraq may yet achieve. His winning distance last year, 12 lengths, equalled the record for the race, and it will be no surprise if he claims it for himself tomorrow. His most recent Timevictory of his 16-race career,

Both targets will be within sight if Istabraq produces the porters have come to expect. punters will surely have a champion whose honour will be defended in the pubs of Cheltenham well into the new mil-



Istabraq in full flight is one of the most glorious sights in jump racing and he is odds-on favourite to win a second successive Champion Hurdle tomorrow

### WHAT MAKES ISTABRAQ A CHAMPION

John Gosden, Istabraq's first trainer who guided his career as a racehorse on the Flat. feels that one factor above all has helped istabraq to realise his potential. "He wasn't overused as a young horse," Gosden says, "and that was critical to his development. He has been able to improve with age, he wasn't used up early on." By the start of his four-year-

old season, Istabrag had shown plenty of ability in staying races but his owner's policy was to send any horses which were unlikely to be Group class to the sales. "We wanted to make sure that he went to the right home, because we knew he had a lot of development in him. Timmy Hyde bought him for JP McManus and the rest, as they say, is history."

Five Nations' Championship 13.10-13.45 (TV On the Ball Football mag

13,45-14,20 NBA 99 Basketball 14,00-15,30 CS Sports Week on 5 Round

14.45 -17.05 C4 Racing Lingfield and New

castle 22.35-23.45 BBC1 Manch of the Day Ar-senal v Coventry is the Isagured match

Sabelibe
09.00-19.00 Eurosport Cross-Country
Skiling Women's World Cup 30km freescyle.
from Osio
19.00-12.00 Eurosport Skil Jussplag K185
event from Scoreila

12.00-17.00 Sky Sports 3 Euro Tour Golf

Dango 20.00-22,00 Sky Sports 2 Ford Golf USA More from Bau Hill

SUNDAY

Sabelibe

39.00-10.00 Evrosport Nordic Combined
Skiling Live World Cup event from Poland
11.00-14.00 Sky Sports 1 Line Rootball Aston Villa v Chelsea [kick-off 11.30]

12.30-16.30 Sky Sports 3 Euro Tour Golf
Moroccan Open, final day
14.00-17.30 Sky Sports 2 Morthlegton Cup
Final Tottenham v Leoester. With George Graham in charge at Sports. don't export a repeat of the Gwalier FA Cup per formances of
the Eighties. Ricky VIIIa might have been in
Argentna's World Cup-winning squad but
George would probably consider him a liauury If Muzy Izzet and Nei Lennon cain get
a glap on the midfield. Leicester might nave
a chance. If not, this might be a one-sided
affali.

affalt
18.00-18.30 Sky Sports T Super League:
St Helens v Gateshead, only the second game
in the top flight for the team from the north-east (kick-off 18.05);
20.00-22.00 Sky Sports 2 Ford Goff USA
OJy Jour from the Bay Hill invitational
17.30-20.30 Sky Sports 3 Scottlah Foot-ball filmamock v Cetts
18.00-13.15 Europeat Ski League

19.00-12.15 Eurosport Ski Jemping Live From the K185 event

12. 13-14.W Eurosport Neurals Complined Skilling Cross-country, from Poland 18.30-20.30 Eurosport Care Live action from the FedEx Owarpionship Series in Milami 21.45-23.00 Eurosport Results Live from the ATP Yout Mercedes Super 9 Tournament in

12.15-14.00 Eurosport Nortic Combin

which plague many lumping horses. **POWERFUL HOCKS** provide the impetus for quick, clean jumping throughout a race. Although he was tiring. Istabraq flew the eighth and final flight in last year's Champion Hurdle as cleanly as

As a two-year-old, Istabraq had problems with his JOINTS, from which he was given time to recover. He was allowed to mature at his own speed and when he graduated to hurdling, still had plenty of racing left in him.

he had the first.

With his Flat pedigree - his dam produced the Derby winner Secreto -Istabraq is not a big horse, but he is well-proportioned, Good CONFORMATION is an aid to soundness, and he has rarely been troubled by the niggling injuries, for instance to the back and legs, Istabraq has a good STRIDE and a high cruising

horse to train is often their BRAIN, but istabraq has a willing, no-nonsense attitude to hard work, "I think gelding helped with that," John Gosden says. "He used to be a bit of a worrier, but there's no doubt gelded horses stay to the game."

The hardest part of a

**HEART** and **LUNGS** which are his engine and petrol tank respectively. They need to be unusually good at supplying oxygen to hard-working muscles.

Shrewsbury v Chester: Swansea v Hall-rac: Torquay v Scarborough, Nazion-wide Conference: Cheltenham v Kettering: Doncaster v Welling: Farn-borough v Northwich; Hayes v Southport; Hednesford v Yeovil: Hereford v Barrow; Kedderminster v Dover: Kingstonian v Telford; Leek Town v Forest Green: More-cambe v Rushden & Dlamonds: Wolding v Stevenage. Sootzish Premier League: Dundee v Hearts; Dunfermine v St John-sone: Motherwell v Aberdeen; Rangers v Dundee Utd. Scootsish League First Divisions Ayr v St Mirren: Cydebank, v Raith; Falkirk v Hamilton; Hibernian v Ai-drie: Stranzer v Greenock Morton, Seo-oud Divisions of Sovdi.

radiu radiu v raminuo; Internan v Airie; Stranvaer v Greenock Morton, Second Division: Alioa v Queen of Sovdi: Clyde v Arbroath; East Fife v Spring; For-lat v Inverness Caledonian; Partick v Lingston. Third Division: Albion v Stenhousemult: Berwick v Exachie. Moreover.

ingston. Third Division: Aftion v Stenhousemulr; Berwick v Brechin: Monrose v East String; Queen's Park v Cowdenbeath: Ross County v Dumbarton. FR Cartisbarg Vase semi-flaal second leg: Thame Utd v Bedlington Terriers: Therton Rown v Jaunton.

RUSEN'S LEMSUR; (7,30): JJB Sports Saper League: Sheffield v London (6.0). RUSEN'S LEMSUR; (7,30): JJB Sports Saper League: Sheffield v London (6.0). RUSEN'S Champlonship: England v France (2.30) (or iwickenhom); Scotland vireland [3.0) (or iwickenhom); Scotland [3.0) (or iwickenhom);

wood v Pontypool (2.30),

BASKETBALL: Budweiser Langue:
Derby Storm v Peugeot Bullets Birmingham (7.30); Renavir Lefcester Riders v
Westfield Sharks Sheffield (7.30); Manchester Glants v Eeide London Towers
(7.10): Newcastle Eagles v Chester lets
(7.0): Newcastle Eagles v Chester lets
(7.0): Thames Valley Tigers v Edinburgh
Rocks (8.0): ITT L&E Worthing Bears v adidas Greater London Leoparcis (8.0).

BACING: Newcastle 11.501: Market

das treater London Leoparus (p.v).
RACING: Newcaste [1.50]: Market
Rosen (2.10): Uroseter [1.15); LING-FIELO [Mired, All-Weather Flat and
National Hunt, 2.05].

### THE WEEK AHEAD: SPORT ON TELEVISION

Terrestrial
14.45-15.25 B6C March of cheir Day Perel Cegood talks to Carth Crooks
19.00-19.30 BBC1 A Question of Sport
With Jacon McNeer, raily diver Richard Burns,
Bley Hantey and Paula Raddiffe
22.40-00.15 Channel 4 at Cheltenham
Shn Franzmek Roks at the contenders
09.30-01.30 TV Football Entra Nationwide
hebitaris

Satelfite 12.00-15.00 Say Sports 2 Basketball Derb. Styrm v Manchester Gunt Children West Index v Airstraia Second Test (contract or Gunt Children West Index v Airstraia Second Test (contract or F. 50-22 Od) Bran Lard's Marchane to resture disease value for West Index Defeat here after their dismost for 51 in the last Test (violate a distracting blow). nould be a shartening blow

17.00-18.00 UR Gold All Creatures Great
and Small himes upoets conners at a local
greatenand thack with questions about the
settlemen of the dogs it's a set's life
20.00-21.30 Say Sports I Sports Auction
Live Coverage of the Sports Legends auction
1900 20,00-22,00 Sky Sports 3 International Bowle Australia v England - Second Test

### TUESDAY

Terrestrial 13.30-16.20 Channel 4 Racing from Chel tenham The festival gets under way with th alres Alan Honsen talks to the files of Alan Sheam. David Beckham and Michael Owen about the pressures of lame Poor petalt 23:30-90.95 TV Champlons' League Speelal Prevew 00.00-01.50 89Ct On the Waterfroot Mar-ten Standa as a boung hopeful He coulda-been a contender instead of a burn

15,**90-17,00** Sky Sports 2 **Cricket W**est in-dies v Australia Icontinued 17 30-22,003 des y Australia (continued 17 50-22 aug 18.30-19.00 Sky One Dream React The con-tinuing (Lavails of Harchester United 19.00-21.30 Eurosport Football Celta Vigo y Marselle live. The Spaniards who beat As-

19.30-20.00 Sky One The Simpsons Me Borns John Homer's bossing team 19,30-22,000 Sky Sports 3 FA Cap Football briefinam v Barneley replay. Barnsley alm to be the only Nationavide side in the semi-finals while Spurs' Invest go all trembley at the purspect of another trip to Wembley. 21.30-00.00 Evrosport Football Uefa Cup nightights Parma v Bordeaux, Lyonnais v

Sologna, Roma v Atletico Madrid 22.00-23.00 Sky Sports 2 Table Temis Nen's doubles finals from the English Open

### WEDNESDAY

Terrestrial

13.30-16.30 Channel 4 Racing from Chelreseasum The Queen Mother Changson Chase
art 4.35 heads the card [highlights at 23.30]

19.30-22.00 IV The Big Match Munchester
United defend their two-goal lead from the
first leg at Old Trafford, against internationale
[kick-off 19 45]. Inter may start with Ronal-

do on the bench following the 45 minutes he played in the Milan derby on Saturday, it he is thrown into the action United's lutter in Europe will lest on the £10m shoulders of Jap Soam 23.39-00.35 (TV Champions League High-lights United and the best of the rest 00.55-04.40 C5 les Heckey Phoenix Coyotes V Detroit Redwings 91.45-04.05 C4 Miezsamotta Football leatia Serie A action 02.110-02.55 (TV Champions League Full coverage of Dynamo New v Real Madrid

17.30-22.00 Sey Sports 2 Live Cricket West Indies v Australia second Test (continued 17 30-22.00) 19.00-22.00 Sey Sports 1 Golf Extra 15.00-62.30

15.00-62.30

20.00-21.30 Sky Sports 1 Rugby League
World News from around the world

22.00-23.30 Sky Sports 1 FA Cup Flast
Classics Leeds v Sunderland in 19/3

22.00-23.30 Sky Sports 2 Table Visuals
Men's doubles final from the English Open
Championships

THURSDAY 1 FOR S DAY

13.30-16.30 C4 Racing from Chaltenham
The Gold Cvp at 15 15 sees Yearon Mill and
Florida Pearl go head-to-head
19.00-21.35 C5 Europeane Cup-Wilmens\*
Cup Wileranga v Chelses with a 3-0 lead from
the first leg. Chelses shouldn't have much trouble easing past this ordinary Norwegan side.
Valil may take the opportunity to rest some
of his principal players (lick-off 19.30)
23.30-00.35 fTV The Sports Show Discussion hosted by Earmonn Holmes

13.00-17.00 Sky Sports I Barre Tear Golf Action from the first day of the Moroccan Open in Royal Chaddir 19.30-22.00 Sky Sports 3 Live Ica Hock-ey Superleague play-off 19.30-21.30 Eurosport Football Valeren-pa v Chebea 19.30-21.30 Eurosport Pootbaal Valeren-ga v (Rebea See C5 21.00-22.00 Sky Sports 2 Line Gelf from the Bay Hill event in Orlando, Florida 21.30-23.30 Eurosport Pootball Live action from the Cup-Milmers' Cup: Maccabi Halfa

### FRIDAY

Satellite

13.00-17.00 Sky Sports 1 Euro Tour Golf:
More from Royal O'Agadir
14.00-16.00 Eurosport Short Track Speed
Sloading World Championships, the from Sofa
19.00-21.30 Sky Sports 1 Super League:
Leeds villigor, presented by Eddle Hermings
21.00-23.00 Sky Sports 2 Live Golf More
from Bay Hill
21.30-23.00 Sky MovieMax Steed Shaquille
O'Neal plays an arms designer. Presumably
this is the sorts of role Vinnie Jones is now
interested in. Perhaps they could set a sequel in south London with Vinnie and Shaq
as cop buddles. They may bend the rules, but
by God they get results...

### SATURDAY

08.00-09.00 (4 Transmorid Sport 10.00-11.00 (4 Inside Rugby with Thierry Lagrott 11.00-12.00 (4 Gazzetta Football Italia 12.20-17.45 BBC1 Grandstand Includes

### THE WEEK AHEAD: MAIN EVENTS

forcing: The Chelpenham Festival gets un-derway with The Champion Hurdle the cen-trepiete of the Brist day at Presidury Park, where the Gulinness and champagne Row in equal amounts and Anglo-irish relations are further cemented through the lone of great horses. The Irish have the odds-on favourite, Istabraq, who won easily and landed some monster bets last year. Ex-pect the stand roof to be raised when, bar-ring an accident, he does it again.

FOOTBALL: Tottenham Hotsput go to Barnsley to contest the last of this sea-son's FA Cup quarter-finals, while the rest of Europe focuses on the second legs of the Uefa Cup quarter-finals - in which the trallans look to have the upper hand. Bologna hold a three-goal lead from the first leg and look sure to qualify for the semi-finals; Parma and froma both scored crucial away goals in 2-1 defeats at Bor-deaux and Atletton Madrid respectively and two more trallan semi-finalists would not be a surprise. Celta Vigo. who also scored in a first-leg 2-1 defeat, are favourities to make up the last four. More from Morocco
13.30-17.00 Sky Sports 2 Rugby Union
England v France (lock-off 14 30)
14.45-16.00 Eurosport Cycling World Cup:
Milan-San Remo classe
13.00-23.00 Sky Sports 1 Businarbail Live
from the Budweiser League, with Suzanne
Pando.

### More from Bay Hill 20.00-22.00 Sky Sports 3 Spanish Foot-ball Live action from a leading Spanish game 21.00-22.00 Sky Sports 1 Satarday Pight Night Live boding 12.00-14.45 Eurosport Cress Country Skillag Men's Solen freestyle live WEDNESDAY

FOOTBALL: Internazionale await Man-chester United and destiny awais: she men from Old Trafford. Ronaldo or not, Unit-ed should have done enough in the 2-0 first-leg win to make the last four, where they should be joined by Dynamo Klev, Bay-ern Munich and Juventus. RACING: Cheltenhart. Day Two. Highlight is the two-mile Oueen Mother Champion 'Chase, a wide-open event for fast-jump-ing steeplechasers. The Guinness and champagne will continue to flow. Terrestrial

12.30-17.10 BSC1 Sandary Grandscand
Features ice hockey's Superleague Challenge Cup final, Sherfield v Nottingham Panthers live from the Sherfield Arena. Also: the TV Masters Raily Sprint at Silverstone
13.45-18.05 C4 Feetball Railia
00.15-00.45 C3 Sports Talk 00.15-00.45 C5 Sports Talk 00.45-04-40 C5 ton Hockey Live NHL ac-

### THURSDAY

POOTBALL: Kevin Keegan unveils his first England squad for the Important Euro 2000 qualifier against Poland. Some in-ternational careers will corne to an end, others will begin, Will he recall Hoddle re-

ject Chris Sutton? Is Andy Cole still a con-tender? Meanwhile, back in Europe. Chelsea should ease their way into the last fout of the Cup Winners' Cup where they should hope to avoid Lado (more Italians) in the semi-final draw. RACING: Gold Cup Day at Chelbenham where all the questions will be answered. Is treland's Florids Pearl another Arkle or another fatse down? Can England's Rec-ton Mill maintain an incredibly successful season for trainer Veneda Williams? Or will here be another shock file last year? Whac-ever the result, still a tidal wave of Guin-ness and champagne.

### FRIDAY

FOOTBALL: Both Manchester United an Cheisea will be hoping they have an in-terest in the draws for the semi-finals of the European dub competitions. RUGBY LEAGUR: Leeds Rhinos and Wigan Warriors meet as Super League gathers momentum. Leeds priumphed in their Challenge Cup de byt Wigan won't let chem have it all their own way.

### RUGGY UNION: Five Nations sees France the visitors to Twicke

RUGGY UNDOR: Five warms sees France the visitors to Twickenham where England are the only unbeaten sid in the most enjoyable championship for years. Scotland play hosts to treland which disappointed against England two weel Too close to call.

POOTBALL: The Worthington Cup Final at Wembley, Leicester City v Tottenham Hotsput highly his Leicester, who won this competition two years ago, will almost certainly try to contain rewitalised Spurs and hit them on the break but their manager, Martin O'Neill, is always likely to spring a surprise. A trophy in George Graham's first season in charge of fottenham would be nothing short air miratulous, bearing in mind the dross they were serving up before his arrival.

### BIRTHDAYS

TODAY: American jockey Cash Asmuses was born in 1962. A winner of the Edige was born in 1902. A warner of the Ecipse Award for top apprentice at the age of 17. In the 1979 season, with a total of 263 winners, he came to Europe in 1902. At Chepstow in 1983, he made history as the first American Jockey to ride a win-

as the instrumental policy to not a winner for the Queen.
WHEDNESDAY The finest amateur golfer
of all time, Bobby Jones, was born
1902. Jones, who never turned professional, won the Open Championship three
times and the US Open four times, and
amatities that each mark to win the "Greet
Control of the Control of the Control

"Control of the Control of the Control of the Control

"Control of the Control of the remains the only man to win the "Grand Stam" of all four majors (in 1930). THURSDAY: Snooke player Alex Higgins was born in 1949. He won two world Licies, in 1972 and in 1982. F 9 Tournament in in 1952, the celebrated flat racing Jock-ey Pat Eddery was born. He won the first SA by WALLACE of his nine titles in 1974, in 1990 he be-

came the first man since Gordon Richards, in 1952, to ride 200 winners Richards, In 1972, to tree 200 training in a season.
In a season. Swedish skier ingemar Stemmark was born in 1956. He won gold medals at the 1980 (lympics in the slalom and giant salom.

FRIDAY: Norman Yardley, the former
England and Yorkshire cricketer, was born
In 1915. He captained his national side
on 14 of the 20 occasions he played for

them.
Nigel Clough, the former England and
Nottingham Forest striker who is now
player-manager for Burton Albion, was
born in 1956.
SUNDAY Brian Clough, Nigel's father,
was born in 1935. was born in 1935. Runner Ingrid Kristiansen was born in 1964. The Dane has set world records at 5.000. T0,000 metres and marathon.

TODAY RACING (Nacional Hunt unless stated): Plumpton [first race 2.0); Stratford (1.50): Yaunton (2.10).

speed, which gives his

lockey the freedom to ride

the race of his choosing.

### TOMORROW

TO MO R ROW

FOOTBALL (7.45 unless stated): Uefa Cup quartor-finals sected leg: Roma v Attecto Modrid (7.30, 1-2); Celta Vigo v Marsellle (8.45, 1-2); Lyon v Bologna (7.30, 0-3); Parma v Bordeaux (5.30, 1-2); AXA-sponsored PA Cup stath round: Barrieley V Botenham, Mattommide League Firse Divisions: Bury v Wolvenhampton, Crewe v Grinsby, Second Divisions: Blacipool v Bournemouth; Man City v Notts County, Stoke v Fufham, Third Divisions: Blacipool v Bournemouth; Man City v Notts County, Stoke v Fufham, Third Divisions: Brentford v Halifact Rotherham v Cardiff. The Auto Windscreens Shield Morthern Arna Final Burst leg: Wigan v Wrecham, The Auto Windscreens Stield Southern Arna Final Burst leg: Wigan v Wrecham, The Auto Windscreens: Cheltenham v Farnborough; Leet Iown v Southport; Northwich v Doncaster, Rushden & Diamonds v Dower; Welling v Sreverage Wholing vi Sectering: Bannetins: Scottish Cup fifth-round replay: Dunder Uto v Ayr, Scottish League Taked Olvisions; Albion v Montrose (7.30); RACIMG: Cheltenham (2.0); Sedgefield (2.25). Scottenhall (1.4)

RACING: Cheltenham (2.0): Sedgefield (2.25); SOUTHWELL (All-weather Flat, 2.15). WEDNESDAY

WEDNESDAY

FOOTBALL (7-AS unless stated): European Champlons' League quarter-finals second leg: Dynamo Klev v Real (0-2): Kaiserslausen v Bayern Munch (0-2): Chymplatos v Juventus (1-2). Nationaide Conference: Forest Green v Wovil. Scottish League First Division: Clydebank v Ayr (7-30). FAI Harp Lager National League Premier Division: Finn Harps v Sign Rovers (3-0). RugBy LEAGUE (7-30): Northern Ford Premiership: Featherstone v Widnes: Whitehaven v Lancashire Lynx. BASKETBALL: Budwelser League; Peugeot Bullets Birmingham v Edinburgh Rocks (7-30, at Aston Vittla). RACING: Chelterham (2-0): Hunting-

THURSDAY POOTBALL (7.45 unless stated): Euro-Pean Cop Winners' Cup quarter-linels second leg: Lazio v Panionios (4-0); Mac-

TOTARY The Condmont Red Stockings, the first professional baseball team, played their first match for money against Great Western in 1869.

TOMORROWS In 1872 the first FA Cup

final was contested by Wanderers and Royal Engineers. A crowd of 2,000 saw

Wanderer score the only goal of the game. WEDNESDAY: Cornishman Bob Fitzsim-

Real Mallora v Vartels (0-0): Valerenga v Cheisea (0-3). FRI Harp Lager National League Premier Division: Bohemians v Bray Wanderers; Dundalk v Derry City. RACING: Cheltenham (2.0): Hexham (2.25): LINGFIELD (All-weather Flat. 2.20).

THE WEEK AHEAD: FIXTURES

### FRIDAY POOTBALL [7.45 unless stated]: FAI Harp Lager Premier Division: Shel-tourne v Sigo: Waterford v Shamrock Rouers. RUGBY LEAGUE [7.30]: JB Sports

RUGEY LEAGUE (7.30): JIB Sports Super League: Leeds v Wigan.
RUGEY UNION (7.30): A Internationals: England v France (1.30) lat Redruth): Italy v Wales (at Rovigo): Scotland v Ireland (7.0. at Myreside). Undersationals: England v France (at Worceser): Italy v Wales (2.0. at Udine): Scotland v Ireland (6.30. at Bridge-hough, Striling). Club match: Harlequins v Biarritz.

BASKETBALL: Badwelser League: Rillton Keynes Llons v Renault Leloester Riders (7.30): Westfield Sharks Sheffield v Manchester Glants (7.45).

RACING: Faltenham (2.20): Folkestone

RACING: Fakersham (2.20); Folkestone (2.0); SOUTHWELL | All-weather Flat. 2.19).

SATURDAY

FOOTBALL (3.0): FA Carling Premiershape Arsenal v Coventry: Blackburn v Wimbledon: Leeds v Derby: Notron 
Forest v Middlesbrough: Southampton v Sharf Wed: West Ham v Newcastle. Nationwide Leegase First Division: Barnsley v Wolverhampton; Bristol City v Bradford: Crewe v Oxford Litt: Crystal Palace v Grimsby: Huddershed v Birmingham: Notwich v Portsmouch: OPR v Swindon: Sheft Utd v Port Vale; Sockport v Tranmere: Sunderland v Bolton: Watrond v Bury: West Brom v Ipswich. Second Division: Cresterfield v Luton; Colchester v Man City (6.0); Fulham v Blackpool: Glänghom v Lincoln City: Northampton v Mocclesfield: Oldham v Malwall: Preston v Bournemourn: Reading v Wycombe: Stoke v Notts County: Walsali v Bristol Rovers: Wraham v Burley: Vork v Wigan. Third Division: Cambridge Litd v Mansield: Catiliste v Brentford: Darlington v Southend: Exeter v Cardiff (12.15); Hardepool v Brighton: Hull v Plymouth: Rochdale v Barnet: Rotherham v Peterborough; Scunthorpe v Leyton Oriens:

win the world heavyweight boxing title at Carson City, Nevada, in 1897.

THURSDAY: Oxford set a record time for the Boat Race in 1994, winning in Rest cricket began in 1877, when James Lilbywhite's touring England side met the Australians at the Melbourne Cricket for the Isoat Race in 1984, winning in 16 minutes and 45 seconds. FRIDAY The BBC televised its first rug-by match in 1938, when they covered the Calcutta Cup game between England and Scotland at Twickenham. Scotland won 21-15 and went on to take that sea-son's championship. SATURDAY: In 1898 the first recorded

FOOTBALL: Worthington Cup Final: Leicester City v Tottenham Horsput [3.0] (at Wembley), FA Carting Premierable: Aston Villa v Cheisea (1 i. 30); Manchetter Utd v Everton (3.0). Scottsish Premier Langue. Rimarnock v Celik (6.05). BASKETBALL: Buchersher Langue: Chester Jees v Edinburgh Rocks [5.30]; addeds Graster London Leopards v Milton Keynes Lions (4.0) (at Brentwood); Erick London Towers v Tharnes Visity Tigers (5 0).

### ANNIVERSARIES

international cross-county race took place, at Ville d'Avray near Paris, Eng-land beat the hosts over a nine mile

In rugby union. Scotland beat Er at Twickenham for the first time, in1926. The score was 17-9. SUPEDAY: In 1874 a crowd of 3500 at the old Hampden Park ground saw Queen's Park beat Clydesdale 2-0 in the first Scottish FA Cup final, Queen's Park went on to win the cup in their first three

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11 May 2

THE NEW VEC

TOMORROW, AT 10.30pm on BBC1,

Alan Hansen presents a programme called The Football Mil-

lionaires, in which be interviews.

among others, David Beckham,

Michael Owen, Alan Shearer, Jamie

Redknapp and Dwight Yorke.

Rather unattractively, most of them

are at pains to explain that being a potball superstar on £20,000 or so

a week is not all it's cracked up to

be, what with the unwanted atten-

tions of the tabloids and all those flip-

ping autographs to sign. Only Shearer is honest enough to admit

that there has never been, nor pos-

sibly will ever be a better time to

The fundamental problem with

such programmes is that most foot-

ballers are worth listening to only

when they have a ball at their feet.

especially David Beckham, who is

Artur Rubinstein with his boots on.

and Arthur Mullard with them off.

Nevertheless, Beckham makes per-

haps the most interesting contri-bution to The Pootball Millionaires,

recalling that, following that send-

ing-off, the most supportive of his col-

post-match gloom descended,

Adams sat next to him outside the

England dressing-room (the impli-

cation being that he was not wel-

come inside the dressing-room)

offering consolation. The born-again

Christian Glenn Hoddle, by con-

the programme is Steve McMana-

man, who is not only more articulate

than most players, but will soon be

one of the richest. It is said that Real

Madrid are to pay him £65,000 a week,

and I hope that the Liverpool crowd

will wish him well. At the same

time, I can't help wondering what the

family of Neil Franklin must feel

about such stratospheric salaries.

aged 74 - played 27 consecutive games at the heart of the England

efence, and was, in the estimation

of Sir Tom Finney, "the best centre-

half I ever played with or against."

But Franklin was dissatisfied with

his earning power. "I remember

standing on the pitch with him in

1948, before England played Scot-

land at Hampden Park in front of a

crowd of 130,000," Sir Torn told me

recently. "There was a band march-

ing up and down with bagpipes,

and Neil said to me, 'there's some-

thing wrong here, Tom. These bug-

Franklin-who died two years ago

One conspicuous absentee from

trast, cut him dead.

agnes was Tony Adams. As the

be a top professional footballer.

don Marelle formerren

BRAIN.

### **OUESTIONNAIRE**

Is Robbie Williams the new Tom Jones? There's only one Tom There's only one Robbie Williams.

it still is.



last buy a pint of milk and how much was it? Last week. The shopkeeper said. You're Dennis Wisc, the Chelsea footballer. You earn thousands of pounds a week." "That's right," I said. "That'll be 200," he said.

When did you last eat at Mc-Donald's? A couple of Wednesdays ago, at my niece Emma's birthday.

Foreign Office.

school?

for a family newspaper. is Monica Lewinsky a sex

symbol? If not, who is? No. All the supermodels are sexy.

When was the last time you

took the tube? How was the

What's the best foreign

phrase you've picked up in the Chelsea dressing-room?

Quite a few., but none suitable

This year. Service was good.

What has been the best day

of your footballing life so No one day. All of last season and, hopefully, when we win a

trophy this year.

### SPORTING VERNACULAR 5. HANDICAP

WHEN THE County Hurdle rounds off Cheltenham on Thursday, the handicapper's work will be done, "Handicap" originally referred to a gambling game: two parties put up a possession (a watch, say) against the other. An umpire adjudicated on the relative values while the parties put their hands in a hat (hand i' cap).

At the verdict the players withdrew their hand with a different sign (cf the paper-stoneceed or not. If they agreed, the umpire took the money; if not, whoever voted to proceed won the cash. In the 18th century: when an umpire ruled on a weight disadvantage for a superior borse, owners would perform the same manoeuvre to signify agreement.

Later the term was extended to any contest in which advantages are evened out, and came to apply to the disadvantage itself - acquiring by extension its non-sporting sense.

**DENNIS WISE, FOOTBALLER** 

What is your dream holiday destination?

service?

What's the best book you've ever read? Eric Hall's Monster. But because he's my agent I only read 80 per cent of it.

What nickname would be more appropriate for At the present moment, the

What was your favourite non-sporting subject at

scissors game) according to whether they wanted to pro-

CHRIS MAUME

SPORT ON THE INTERNET WILL APPEAR TOMORROW



· In the spring of 1950 - to the surprise of his club Stoke City, who had repeatedly refused his request for a transfer-Franklin left to play for the Santa Fe club in Bogota. Colombian chubs were free to sign foreign play-ers in breach of contract because they were not affliated to Fifa, and offered the kind of money that quite understandably seduced players on a maximum wage of £20 a week. But Franklin soon found that Bogota was definitely not to be confused

with El Dorado. He never saw the pot of gold he'd been promised, and his pregnant wife and six-year-old son found it hard to settle there. Within a few months he returned to England, tail between his formidable legs, and found himself both snubbed by his erstwhile colleagues and villified by the anthorities. Despite his proven ability, none of the top clubs wanted him. Tom Finney tried to persuade the Preston North End manager, Cliff Britten, to sign him. "I said, the's a marvellous player, he'd walk into any side.' But Preston wouldn't have him, and he never played for England again. Eventually be ended up at Hull City, who were in the Second Division."

Speaking of the Second Division in bygone years, last week I referred to Sunderland's giant-killing ex-ploits in the 1973 FA Cup, and referred to their 2-1 victory over Arsenal in the semi-final at Villa Park I was wrong. Jim Dixon writes from South Gosforth to say that he found my column slightly disconcerting. "Having supported Sunderland since 1959 through the downs and downs, I find that I was



Steve McManaman's Real Madrid contract is said to be worth 265,000 a week. Neil Franklin (right) went to Colombia to escape the English maximum wage of £20 per week. The Mirror/Reuters

ment of glory occurred. Some 55,000 of us turned up at Sheffield Wednesday's stadium, but it seems we should have been in Birmingham."

the game being on Match of the Day.
"We didn't actually see the high-lights until Sunday afternoon on Tyne Tees," adds Mr Donn. "No hard

in the wrong place when a rare mo- success are not words you usually use in the same sentence, so please don't spoil my one moment in 40 years." If I can count a few chickens on Mr Dixon's behalf, he at least has Apparently I was also wrong about Premiership football to look forward to next season. In the meantime, all I can say to him is a big fat mea culpa
-who, I think I'm right in saying, is married to Giovanni Culpa, reserve feelings. It's just that Sunderland and team goalkeeper for Internazionale.





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The Bor-ent's

# Saints coach defends sinner Johnson

AT REGULAR intervals during Saturday's tumultuous contest at Franklin's Gardens, Dean Richards could be seen scribhling furiously into the palm of his left hand. Given that England's most revered rugby folk hero possesses paws the size of Leicestershire, he could have been writing pretty much anything – a Tolstoyan epic of life in the East Midlands or, more ambitious still, a chronological account of Martin Johnson's recent disciplinary problems. Whatever his subject matter at the weekend, he will soon be sitting down to pen his triumphal

stopped singing, even though her bawdy alehouse aria was originally scheduled to last well into the merry month of May. It deference and respect. was the day Northampton and, 120 or so miles to the ager, Richards felt compelled to north-west, Saracens - saw the lights go out on their title am-



HEWETT

Leicester

bitions. Most emphatically of all, It was the day the fat lady of it was the day Leicester un-the Allied Dunbar Premiership derlined their domestic supremacy with a performance of such iron resolve that the only legitimate response was one of

In his capacity as team manoffer the usual platitudes in the aftermath of victory "No. it's

take it one game at a time... Look, Newcastle are always hard work up there and Wasps are playing better than anyone... Since when have Bath been easy meat on their own ground..?" But in his capacity as one of the Tiger-striped boys, the old curmudgeon will have let it rip on the boozy return trip up the M1. Seven points needed from a possible 12, with a home game against the whipping boys of West Hartlepool to come? Those are the mathematics of the inson, who must be sick to the

Talking of inevitabilities, rugby simply would not be the game we know and love without a Johnson "incident". The system works along these lines: the best tight forward in Europe - In the absence of the injured John Eales, you can change "Europe" to "world" - goes ateaming into a ruck or maul. in accordance with his role in

his part in this ridiculous pageant, promptly flicks a coloured card from his pocket (white for Premiership games, vellow for anything else); the broadcasters and press men go was promptly packed off to the sin-bin by David McHugh, the into one of their collective frenzies, instantly transforming a molehill into something the Irish referee who had whistled size of K2; the referee then the life from the Calcutta Cup issues a half-apology, agreeing that he might have been too quick on the draw; and, hey presto, everyone is happy. Everyone, that is, except John-

back teeth of it all. Saturday's instalment of this long-running serial was every bit as Pythonesque as those recently performed at Lansdowne Road and the Madejski Stadium. Four points adrift at 8-12 with 16 minutes left on the clock, Jamie Hamilton and Darren Garforth led a Leicester admire Martin a lot. I only drive for the Northampton line. complain about things that are

Over the top came the home

not all over... Yes, we'll still life; the referee fully aware of forwards - one, two, three of cynical or dangerous and, betake it one game at a time... his part in this ridiculous them - and killed the ball stone lieve me, he's simply not that them - and killed the ball stone dead: Johnson, thundering upfield as he had done all afternoon, placed an aimost apologetic boot on the rump of Along with Fritz van Heerone of the sinning Saints and

> match three weeks previously. If Johnson could scarcely believe his misfortune - "I stood on a guy lying on the wrong side of a ruck and, quite honestly. I didn't expect to get binned for something that was no better or worse than four or five similar incidents in the game" -Richards took up the cudgels by claiming that his captain was being "singled out". Interestingly enough, the sharpest criticism of the current witch-hunt came from Ian McGeechan, the defeated coach, who said: "I

sort." In other words: "We have a great player here. Get off his

den, who fairly murdered Tim Rodber in the ball-winning phases, and Richard Cockerill, who played quite brilliantly at hooker. Johnson packed too much dynamite for a Northampton side long on mus-

de but short in the ideas department. It was more than a little ironic, then, that the killer score arrived while both he and his fellow sin-bin resident, Pat Howard, were kicking their heels on the wrong side of the touchline. Cockerill found Martin Corry with a short, flat, dart-thrower's delivery at a 65th minute line-out and the big No 8 steamrollered Matt Dawson into the Franklin's Gardens goo before stretching over in

the left corner Dawson quickly squared it at

hut the momentum was now with the visitors, who could almost smell the polish on the Allied Dunbar trophy as they sought to close out the game. McHugh's third white card, legitimately flourished at Matti Stewart following a punch from the Northampton tight head.

the scrummage They made it count on the stroke of time when, after three set-piece wheels and two collapses, they were awarded a penalty try. The dice might have tumbled in Northampton's favour had McHugh treated the home side similarly at the end of the third quarter. Federico Mendez constructed a useful attacking plat-

gave Leicester an extra man at

Leicester 22. Howard scrambled back to fell Budge Pountney with a trysaving tackle, but the Aus-

15-apiece with his fifth penalty; tralian's subsequent decision to smother the loose ball on the floor led to a short, sharp outhreak of fisticults and to long

minutes in the cooler. "On balance, a penalty try would have been reasonable." agreed McGeechan. "A score was definitely on, even after the

tackle on Pountney." For all that, McGeechan had no real complaints. "It was such a tight game, a game of tiny advantages and disadvantages," he said. "In the end, they made fewer mistakes at important times." And that, he rightly concluded, is the true mark of a champion side. Northampton: Penalties Dawsen 5 Leicoster, Tries Jones Carry Penalty by Conversions Stimpson 2. Penalty.

Conversions Sumpsum A. Sumpsum A. Sumpsum Morchampton: N Beal C Miss A Northey, M Allen B Cohen, A Herober, M Linuson M Voltand, F Mendez, M Stewart, R Metalie, T Rocker (capt) D Mackanson (M Hynes 76), P Lun, A Pounney, Licer IN Eauthle 741, Clorer, I Stunt IG Min phy 41, I Hamilton: D Jelies 1G Rossitter 62), R Cockerill (D West 74), D Garforth, M Junison (capt), F Van Heerden, L Moody (W Johnson 63), M Corry, N Back, Referee, D Michael (teland) form in centre field, from which the seriously rapid Ben Cohen was launched deep into the

# Kingston lays down the rules

JOHN KINGSTON had a warning By DAVID LLEWELLYN for Richmond after a turbulent and distressing week, which began with the off-loading of 34 members of staff and ended with Allied Dunbar Premiership One defeat against Bath.

If the club were contemplating turning any one of their remaining assets – the players again. The jobs that had to be shed have gone; the players who were regarded as surplus to attendance records. financial requirements have on an even financial keel.

But with rumours about a posse of French, Welsh and English clubs clamouring to sign Wales lock Craig Quinnell, Kingston is understandably ready to probe the opposition worried about the temptation such interest might bring for a Perry, the two try-scorers, were financial quick fix, so it was not surprising that he said: "If I had an offer for Craig and it was ac- Richmond did at least have a cepted by the club then I would say 'OK, if he goes, I go'. And that would go for other players too. flanker Adam Vander closed the some money with me then.

"We will not sell players club if I am here. You do not win anything by selling your best that took Vander over the line. players, and unless there is a fundamental playing reason colleague Robbie Hutton, an why you let a player go you do

not sell players." And Richmond want to win things. They are perfectly capable of winning things. They are within touching distance of the Tetley's Bitter Cup, having until Catt put the final boot in reached the semi-finals with a home tie against Newcastle on Easter weekend. It was possihly the prospect of that forthcoming attraction as well as the record crowd which contributed to the positive mood at the Madejski Stadium on Saturday despite their defeat after a gutsy display against Bath.

There was an irony that Richmond, having waited all season to hreak the 10,000 barrier, only did so once they had gone into administration. - into cash, they can think But with some attractive league fixtures coming up there is every likelihood of further

Bath gave away too many been ditched. According to the penalties whenever play moved administrators the club is back within range of Mike Catt's accurate right boot and their backs allowed themselves to be split open twice in the space of two first-half minutes. Jeremy Guscott in midfield was ever and Adedayo Adebayo and Matt invariably up in support and threatened throughout. But stab at getting into the game.

The eye-catching open-side which owed as much to scrumhalf Agustin Pichot and the against their wishes at this power of centre Jason Wright as it did to the supporting run

> When Vander's back row armful of problems for any defence, finished off another move begun by Pichot to bring Richmond to within four points of their opponents, there was a collective holding of hreath for a personal haul of 20 points.

for a personal haul of 20 points. Richmond: Tries Vander Hutton; Conventions Val 2: Penalities Val 3: Bach: Tries Addanyo, Peny. Conventions Cate Penalities Cate 6. Richmond: M. Pini (I. Best. 23-29); N. Walne, J. Wright, M. Dison (M. Deune, 77), S. Brown; E. Wala, A. Pichot; D. McGarland, B. Williams, D. Crompton, A. Sheridan, C. Gilles, R. Hutton, S. Carke (capt), A. Vander (B. Cusck, 60-65); Bach: M. Perry. I. Barshaw, K. Maggs., J. Guscott, A. Addanyo, M. Gatt, G. Cooper, D. Hilton, M. Regan, V. Ubogu (J. Mallett, 76), M. Hang, S. Bordmodt, R. Earnshaw, D. Lye, R. Bryan Rafferner, G. Hughes (Manchester)

Wasps centre Mark Denney wraps a tackle round London Irish right wing Justin Bishop, who went on to score a late try

### Wasps' nest too painful for Irish

FORGET WESTMINSTER, England's leading clubs want European money. Places in next season's competition are up for grabs, although London Irish began this game at Loftus of conceding two tries in three Road as if they could not care less. But Wasos certainly do and this win lifted them to fifth in the 8 Peter Scrivener turned mole Allied Dunbar Premiership.

ground in the quarter finals of the Tetley's Bitter cup.

Yesterday they were dealt Denney before Paul Sampson with even more soundly. Only a was put over in the corner. late flurry, as Wasps' concentration wandered, earned them a modicum of respectability. But fourth-placed Irish had

IT MAY have been red-nose

By DAVID LLEWELLYN

London Irish minutes. The opener came when No

to burrow his way under a pile A fortnight ago the Irish of bodies for the first of his two were sent packing on the same scores. The second was the result of some work by outsidehalf Alex King and centre Mark

Usually the Exiles can count on Brendan Venter and Steve Bachop to direct matters. Unfortunately for Irish, during never recovered from the shock the first half they seemed intent

perhaps simmered for the last mensely talented England A two weeks.

ball were eschewed by South riod, but that he was able to African Venter in favour of taking the ball into contact. Not a good idea when Wasps are the opposition. Bachop appeared to have his mind elsewhere. When the countless handling errors committed by most of the rest of the side were taken into consideration, the upshot was that possession was turned over with sickening regularity. Penalties also abounded, generally punished by Kenny

Logan, Wasps international wing, who notched up 18 points.

centre, was not only in receipt Opportunities to spread the of a pass during this torrid pescore a fine try. That first half touchdown came courtesy of a superb break by Niall Woods

and some good support from captain Conor O'Shea. But it was not until the match was well into its third quarter that Irish began to compete. Until then the admirable Jake Boer and Woods had seemed to be battling on their own and the Exiles' revival coincided, not surprisingly, with Venter's decision to look for players outside him.

He scored one try during

on settling old scores that had Burrows, London Irish's im- which Woods collapsed and departed with a hamstring injury that could keep him out for at least six weeks, and Venter then made another big break to set up a fine try for Justin Bishop. If only they could have begun like that.

Wilston: Titles Scrivener 2. Sampson, Weedon; Conversions Logan 3; Penal-ties Logan 4. London Irish: Tries Bur-rows. Venter, Bishop; Conversions Woods, Cunningham 2; Penalties Woods

2. Wassps: G Rees: P Sampson, F Waters, M Denney, K Logan; A King, M Wood (M Friday, 54); O Molloy, T Leota (S Mitchell, 65). W Green, M Weedon (capt), A Reed (5 Shaw, 59). L Dallagllo, P Scrivener, J Woorley. (3 anaw, 59). L. Dallaglio, P. Scrivener, J. Worsley. London Irish: C.O'Shea (capt): J. Bishop, N. Burrows, B. Venter, N. Woods, J. Cunningham, 72): S. Bachop, K. Putzr, N. Hatley J. Rogers, 57). M. Howe (R. Krice, 63), K. Fullman (R. Hardwick, 45), R. Strudwick, (M. Bird, 74), N. Harvey, J. Boer, K. Spicer, R. Gallacher.

force: C Hawke (New Zealand).

### Catt quick recall

BY CHRIS HEWETT

JUST WHEN Clive Woodward was in serious danger of naming an unchanged England side - a course he has taken only once during his 18 months as national coach - Paul Grayson has prompted a hasty reappraisal by limping on to a longterm casualty list already featuring the names of Will Greenwood, Phil de Glanville and Phil Vickery. The Northampton outside-half is suffering from a stress fracture of the pelvis and is unlikely play again before the middle of May.

Grayson's withdrawal from the side to face France at Twickenham on Saturday almost certainly means a recall for the much-maligned Mike Catt, who demonstrated a keen sense of timing by bagging 20 points for Bath at Richmond at the weekend. Woodward could set his personal time machine in fast forward by giving the No 10 shirt to Jonny Wilkinson, his ultimate solution to England's stand-off predicament, but the Glanville are likely to cement the Newcastle teenager in his current position of inside cen-

"I came back from the Five Nations match in Ireland thinking I'd picked up a groin strain, but when I tried to run after two or three days of intensive physiotherapy, there was nothing doing," said Grayson. "I had the injury scanned and the specialist gave me the bad news. It's a six-week job, for sure, which is hitterly disappointing. I'm a non-starter for the rest of the championship."

England's midfield triangle is the one area of real concern for Woodward as he pursues a 🚁 Grand Slam that would send England into this autumn's World Cup in better than expected shape.

Notwithstanding Grayson's setback, the most intractable problems surround Greenwood, who appears to be suffering from precisely the kind of deep-seated groin condition that once cost Jeremy Guscott an entire season of top-flight

### Gloucester fall to boot of Vile

MIKE BREWER, West Hartle- BY PAUL STEPHENS pool's director of rugby, said before this game that his team needed no motivation. If they are relegated at the end of the season, it will mean the end of Mapletoft tries in the final quarprofessional rugby in the town, ter put them 32-27 ahead. and none of his players will have a job. With a play-off place as their minimum objective. West Bedford at the bottom of the Premiership.

They took a decisive step towards that with a passionate performance against Gloucester at Victoria Park yesterday. Error strewn the game may have been, but it is the result which counts. If West do survive and five of their remaining seven games are at home -Brewer should arrange the freedom of Hartlepool for Steve

The little outside-half from Waratah, Australia, deserves nothing less after contributing 28 of West's 33 points with the opening try, which he converted, a dropped goal, and six penalties, in a low quality, though marvellously exciting. match, which Gloucester should have killed stone dead when Steve Ojomoh and Mark

But Gloucester have been

something of a joke away from the comfort of Kingsholm, winknow they must first displace ning only once, at Richmond back in September. With an hour played, it looked as if league match in charge, might be the second.

> Gloucester allowed the West forwards to gain huge slices of territory and, despite a first-half penalty try and touchdowns Beim, too many unforced errors gave Vile all the kicking prac-

West Hartlepool

Philippe Saint-André's first in By losing on Saturday, Sara-However, it was not to be.

from Nathan Carter and Tom tice required to win the game. Mext Harriegoot: Tries Vile, Monkley, Consersion Vile, Pentables Vile 6; Drop Goal: Vile, Giouccestar: Tries Penalty ry, Beim, Carter, Ojomoh, Mapletoft: Consersions Mapletoft: 2; Penusky: Mapletoft: West Hardepoot: Farmel (7 Hardley 27, G Maxiure 72); ) Berson, M Mullins, P Greaves, S John: S Vile, 7 Nu validities 5 Sparks, 5 McDonald, K Fourie, P Farmer Ceart, M Guerbert, M Salter, O Monkley.

M Brewer. C Catiling: B Johnson (P Sant-André 59), T Fanolua, S Mannia. T Beim: M Mapleton: S Benton (I Sanders 59); T Woodman (T Winds 74). N McCarthy (C Fortey 74). A Deacon, R Fidler. O Sims (capt M Cormwell H-T), E Pearce (A Hazell 65), N Carter, S Ojomoh. Referee: & Campsali (Halifax).

**Howarth sinks Sarries** 

day for the rest of the country, but it was red faces all round for Saracens after this defeat at Saracens Heywood Road; at least until the implications of Leicester's win at Northampton had sunk cens missed the opportunity to move up to second in the Premiership and edge to within seven points of the Tigers, with a game in hand, and the two still to meet, at Welford Road next

This looks academic now, and, unless Leicester lose to Saracens while suffering a cataleptic loss of form in their other five league games, the Allied Dunbar silverware will find a home in the Midlands.

That Saracens will have only an outsiders say in the final weeks of the season is largely their own fault. Their chances of lifting the title were seriously undermined by losing to London Scottish at Watford it is true. But having been hundled

BY PAUL STEPHENS

quarter.

out of the Tetley's Bitter Cup by Newcastle, it has ben a desperately unforgiving fortnight for the bolders. Having begun the season as favourites for both competitions, their cupboard is bare.

the standard with potent con-

Meeting a completely revitalised Sale side - with Shane Howarth on the hottest of hot streaks - they were eclipsed in a hreathtaking finish by a try from Simon Raiwalui, having been denied by a resolute Sale defence as they pounded away at the home line in the closing

Saracens had by far the best

od, before Alain Penaud - who was to score Sarries second try - dropped a goal, while Rob

It will be no consolation to François Pienaar's team that but, more importantly, he also they contributed so forcefully to struck five penalties. Although a marvellous match, or that Pienaar and Richard Hill set more penalties, Raiwalui's final

of the first haif, even though Sale went in 18-13 ahead, after Jos Baxendell and Chris Yates had scored long-range tries. Hill had touched down in that peri-

Thirlby kicked a penalty and a And all the while there was the menace of Howarth. Three times he struck the woodwork Thirlby chipped in with two

strike sealed it. SCHEE Scateu II.
Sale: Tries Barendell, Ystes. Ratvalui; Conversion Howarth. Penaltiles Howarth. 5.
Saracous Tries Penaud. Hill; Conversion Thiriby: Penaltiles Thiriby 3; Drop Goaf Penaud.
Sale: J Mallinder (capt); O Rees. C Yates, J Basendell, M Moore: S Howarth, K Ellis (R Smith 57); O Bell, P Greening, O Theron, S Ranwalui, C Murphy (O Baldwin 65), P Sanderson, A Sanderson, O O'Culmanantic

neagain. Saracans: R Thirlby (G Johnson 78): R Constable. I Thomson, K Sorrell, B Daniel; A Penaud. K Bracken; R Grau, G Chuter, P Wallace. P Johns, K Chesney, R Hill, F Pienar, Capri, A Discorer.

ALLIED DUNBAR

PREMIERSHIP ONE ...23 Bath .......... ...32 Seracens .... ...36 L Irish .......

ALLIED DUNBAR PREMIERSHIP TWO

...50 Blackheath ....17 

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RUGBY UNION RESULTS AND TABLES JEWSON NATIONAL LEAGUE ONE

> TWO NORTH

TWO SOUTH Baridag 13 Bracknell 13
Bridgwater 12 Norwich 10
Cfifton 15 Redruth 20
Esher 70 Weston-5-M-19
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Met Police 39 Tabard 28
Nth Walshara 29 Cheltenham 0

WELSH NATIONAL LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION .....24 Caerphiliy .....27

ontypridd .....31 Newport ......16 FIRST DIVISION Blackwood — 17 Durvant — 65
Bonymaen — 47 Merchyr — 3
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Cross Keys — 13 Ibedu — 7
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Sch Wales Pol — 23 Aberdikery — 21
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Postponed: UWIC (Cardiff Inst) v
Maesres.

ANGLO-WELSH FRIENDLIES TENNENT'S VELVET

PREMIERSHIP FIRST DIVISION Hawick 7 Corrie Hariot's PP 42 Boroaghmoir Metrose 32 Glasgow Watsonlars 31 Jed-Forest W of Scotland 39 Schring Co SECOND DIVISION: Biggar 15 Ketso 15: Kilmamock 39 Edinburgh Acads 33: Kirk-Caldy 23 Dundee H5FP 27: Musselfurgh 18 Cola 32: Postponed: Abardana 1000 v Selkirk, THIRD INVISION: East Kithide 10 Ayr 3: Grangemouth 23 Gordonians 6: Peebles 44 Glasgow Southern 9; Stewart's Mel FP 40 Glenrothes 20.

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WHEN THE final bell sounded st Madison Square Garden shortly after midnight on Saturday, the many thousands who crossed the Atlantic to support Lennox Lewis sent up a cheer in the confident belief that their man had done enough to become the undisputed heavy weight champion.

Even people positioned so far above the action that it would not have surprised them to discover that mountain guides had been recruited as ushers, were entitled to be vehemently at odds with the announcement that followed.

If it is always hazardous to arrive at a verdict from television evidence or when not sitting close at ringside, the draw that prevented Lewis from becoming the first Briton this century to be universally acknowledged as heavyweight champion cannot be regarded as anything other than one of boxing's great injustices.

Having watched the contest again during the early hours yesterday, and making allowances for the natural caution that stood between Lewis and violent victory when he had Holyfield hurt and almost defenceless in the fifth round, the conclusions arrived at by two of the three official judges, Eugenia Williams, who represented the International Boxing Federation, and the World Box-

Appointed by WBC

10



### KEN JONES IN NEW YORK

ing Council appointee, Larry O'Connell (one of Britain's star referees), are questionable.

O'Connell's score of 115 points for both men finally left the undisputed title in limbo. but Williams's favouring of Holyfield was the main source of controversy. How, for example, did she see Holyfield winning the fifth round when he was pinned on the ropes for 45 seconds without striking a blow, and Lewis threw twice as many punches?

In the context of effectiveness, punch statistics can be misleading, Similarly, aggression only counts as a denominator if it is purposeful. The scorecards of most experienced ringside observers talhed, more, or less, with that of the World Boxing Association judge, Stanley Christodoulon, who gave Lewis a 116-113 points advantage. Richie Gia-

HOW THE JUDGES SCORED THE FIGHT

Appointed by WBA

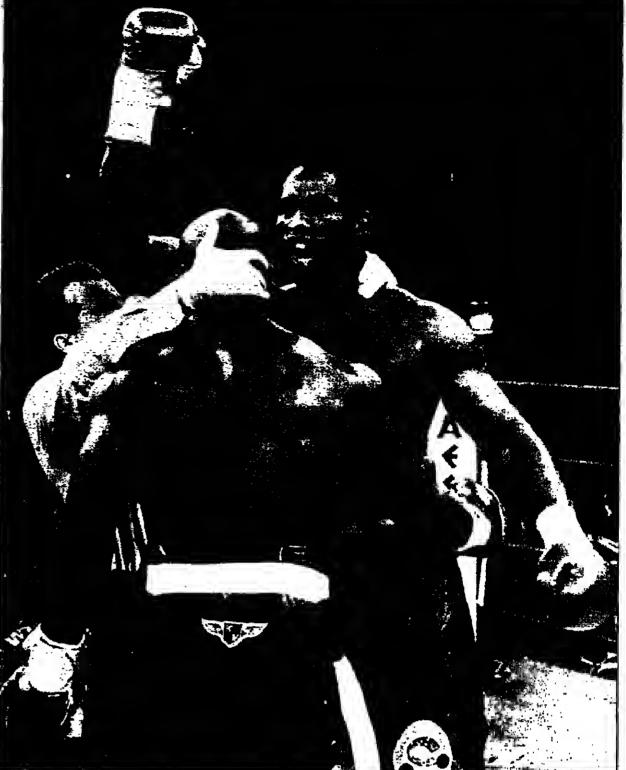
Holyfield

chetti, the hard man who trained both Larry Holmes and Mike Tyson, was among the many fight people who spoke out against the decision. "Jesus, you'd have to be blind not see Lewis as a big winner," be said when we spoke afterwards. "What was that broad [Williams] looking at?" Other remarks, slanderous

in implication, cannot be repeated on these pages. Incompetence is another matter "T don't care who the winner was." Williams said in defence of her verdict. "I scored by the blows that connected." On that basis -348 to 130 - Lewis skated it.

Lewis had himself to blame for allowing the situation to develop. As in defences of the WBC beit against Henry Akinwande and Oliver McCaul, he allowed suspicion to undermine his superiority, boxing so cautiously in the latter part of the contest that even Christodoulou gave Holyfield four of the last five rounds.

In truth, the first contest for the undisputed heavyweight title to be held at Madison Square Garden since the epic battle between Muhammad Ali and Joe Frazier in March 1971 was poor by comparison, so lacking in incident during the later rounds that silence descended upon the audience. Controversy apart, not one for



Lennox Lewis raises an arm in short-lived triumph at the end of his fight with Evander Holyfield

### lets the prize escape

Lewis

From page 1

a succession of jabs which left reddened abrasions on the skin on Holyfield's cheeks and brow.

In the eighth and ninth Lewis seemed to be overconscious of the threat posed by the wounded animal in front of him. Now his right hand had lost its sting, and was merely being poked and prodded at Holyfield. Before the 10th, he needed attention to a small cut near his right eye. Holyfield saw it and came charging in. flailing away, and there was some ungainly stuff on view as he fought to regain lost ground in the 10th and 11th.

A huge chant from the British fans carried their man into the final round, but Lewis seemed to feel that he had already done enough, and the pro-active fighter of the early rounds had all but disappeared Only in response to Holyfield's closing assault did be shake off his circumspection and, with eight seconds left on the clock, throw a short, straight, ferociously hard right hand which travelled no more than 18 inch es, landing between Holyfield's eves and buckling the American's knees.

This was the blow which. had it been ventured earlier in the fight, could have brought a very different outcome. Lewis's failure to do so is a tribute to the resolve of Holyfield - older. shorter, lighter, less motivated by bunger for the big prize, but a fighter from head to toe. Lennox Lewis made a lot of converts on Saturday night. He did enough to deserve victory: But when all is said and done he could not make Evander Holy-

### Scorecards bore mark of the devil'

Lennox Lewis: When did Evander hit me with a jab? I was chasing him with jabs all night. I felt I was in control the whole fight. What can I say? Larry O'Connell (British fight and we get robbed. judge who scored the fight a Rick Telander (Chicago Sun-Frank Maloney (Lewis's man-

ager): Emotions were running has shown any emotions. The world knows who is the undisputed champion. Even Stevie Wonder could have seen that Lennox won ... It has tarnished

O'Connell is put on one of my shows by the British Board of Control I will hand back my promoter's licence... Ten years of hard work, we finally got the

draw): I know I'll get some stick, Times): The robbery was so but it's my decision to call the stunning that you almost had to fight as I see it. When I score epicy it Like watching a three- Panos Elizees (Lewis' proeach round, I never know what card monte scam occur in moter): Does Evander want to the overall score is going to be. broad daylight in Times Square, in slow motion with a captive audience ... Welcome to high It's the first time Lennox New York City, and Boxing USA, where anything is possi-

Mickey Vann (British referee): Women are not fight people. There are two sports where Lou Di Bell (senior vice-pres- has messed up my four days in stink returned to the air over woman should not be allowed ident of cable network Home New York.

- rugby and boxing. Nobody Box Office): It stunk. The scor- Frank Warren (promoter and knew the judge - I think she ing of the IBF judge was simwas overawed Don King (fight promoter): What you do when you have a

dispute is to resolve it. Let's do it again, let's make it happen. The question still hovers over us: Who is the best?

fight Lennox again? I'd say no. He was toying with him in there. Roy Jones (WBA and WBC easy, He did a wicked, wicked, light-heavyweight champion): number on Holyfield. As God is I feel ashamed we treated my witness, he was the winner of the devil ... It was a night in Lennox Lewis the way we did. Chris Eubank (boxer and which the glory and honor of I'm upset Lennox did not lose it, and it wasn't a draw.

ply not possible. She scored Lewis' most decisive round, the fifth, to Holyfield. This what makes this great sport suffer. Emanuel Steward (Lewis' trainer): I gave Holyfield three rounds. He looked like Lerman's ring partner was paid \$11m.

Frank Bruno (former boxer): pundit): It's a travesty of jus-

Leyton Orient chairman); I could have been watching Levton Orient lose instead of this. Timothy W Smith (New York Times): It wasn't Ali-Frazier L It was more like a Brinks truck beist ... It is the kind of decision that will burt boxing as Holyfield's ears in 1997.

Wallace Matthews (New York Lennox made the fight look Post): The fight plan may have been drawn up by the Lord, but the scorecards bore the mark boxing was supposed to return tice. I will say it publicly: this to its former home; instead the the ring.

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ATHLETICS

GRAND PRIX REETING (Plebarsherg, SA) Selectact Meat Triple Jewept 1 1 Edwards (GB) 16.98m; 2 T Oke (GB) 15.84; 5 R Walet (SA) 14.75. Jamellins 1 M Corbett (SA) 87.17m; 2 M Roberson (GB) 75.52; 5 J van Etc (SA) 74.66. VIEWFROM ENGLISH NATIONAL CROSS COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHEPS (Newwrit) Seuton men (12km): 1 J Pugsley (Birchfield) 38mh; 32sc; 2 8 Royden (Medway) 38.42; 3 5 Newport (Blackheath) 38:44. Under-20 Mea (10km): 1 5 Haughlan (Flourslow) 32:16; 2 J Ward (Hallamshire) 33:50; 3 A Beckwith (Indicas East Kent) 33:51. Teams: 1 Sale Harriers Marchester 121; 2 Sollhutt and Small Heath 155; 5 Aldershot Farmham and District 158. Under-17 Mian (6km): 1 M Farah (Hoonslow) 21:34; 2 L McCash (Pendle) 22:09; 3 L Evers (Briscol) 22:16, Teams: 1 Sunderland 112pts; 2 Brissel AC 180; 3 Aldershote Farmham and District 201. Seafor Weamse (8km): 1 A Newport (Basingstoke) 29min 33sec; 2 A Whitcombe (Parkelde Harrow) 29:35; 5 E Tuflor (Bedford) 29:37. Theams: 1 Shaftesbury Barnet, 57pts; 2 Salford Harriers 18; 3 Parkelde Harrow) 137. Under-20 Weamse (Skm): 1 Thomas (Mellsend) 20:30; 2 K Fletcher (Kirk Hallam) 21:14; 5 E Brooker (Shaftesbury Barnet, 21:12; 5 H Dean (Radley) 21:18; Teams: 1 Ipowich Harriers 34; 2 Sale Harriers Manchester 19; 5 Ashford AC 185, Under-17 Whomes (Stom): 1 J Potter (Rashelliffe) 20:58; 2 K Waterson (Ipowich) 21:12; 5 H Dean (Radley) 21:18; Teams: 1 Ipowich Harriers 34; 2 Matershot Farnham and District 104; 3 Liverpool Harriers 197, Under-15 girls (2km): 1 K Wooton (Luton United) 15:02; 2 K Vogel (Liverpool Prembroke & Schon Harriers 197, Under-15 girls (2km): 1 K Wooton (Luton United) 15:02; 2 K Vogel (Liverpool Prembroke & Schon Harriers 197, Under-15 girls (2km): 1 K Wooton (Luton United) 15:02; 2 K Vogel (Liverpool Prembroke & Schon Harriers 197, Under-15 girls (2km): 1 K Wooton (Luton United) 15:02; 2 K Vogel (Liverpool Prembroke & Schon Harriers 197, Under-15 girls (2km): 1 K Wooton (Luton United) 15:02; 2 K Vogel (Liverpool Prembroke & Schon Harriers 197, Under-15 girls (2km): 1 K Wooton (L

(San Vircove Olama, It.): Men (10.Maryl: 1.S Hasou (Mor) 34 min 49 sec. 2.) kori (Ken) 35:03; 3 5 Lebid (Mr) 35:06. Ween (4.9km): 1 A Weyermann (Swit) 17min 31sec: 2 M Okalio (Ken) 17:36; 8 F Yvelain (Fr) 17:59.

THE MELS WAF CROSS COUNTRY

BADMINTON

VOREX ALL ENGLAND CHAMPIORSHIPS' (Misispan Indoor Arvan,
Birnslagham) Mari's singles, seanfinals; P Gade Cristensen (Den) bt 8 Sanloso (Indon) 15-11- 15-5; T Hidayat
(mon) bt P-E Hoyes-Larsen (Den) 15-13
15-7; Final: Christensen bt Hidayat
15-11-7-15 15-10. Sten's doubtes
sansi-finals: L Dong-Soo and Y Yong-Sung
(for) bt C Choon Eng and L Wan Wah
(Majay) 15-9 15-5; T Gunawan and C
Wijaya (mon) bt H Tae-Ksuon & K Dong
Moon (Kor) 7-15 15-12 15-8 Sand-sets
Gunawan and Wijaya bt Dong-soo and
Yong-sung 15-7 15-5; Worsen's singles
geni-finals: Ye Zhaoying (Ch) bt C Marjan (Den) 11-111-3; Dai Yan (Ch) bt Zhaoying beat Yun 9-11 11-5 11-1.
Worsen's doubtes, sand-finals: H Sui
and L Ving (Ch) bt G Ling and Q Viyush
and Chiles (Ch) bt G Ling and Q Viyush The country of the co

### BASKETBALL

115

113

NEAL Atlanta 86 Toronto 75: Dallas 91
Vancouver 74; Houston 100 Cleveland 89;
San Antonio 92 Denver 61; Utah 99 Minnesota 72; Golden State 74 Driando 87:
LA Clippers 96 Portland 106 (ar).
LNN-BALL TROPHY Float: Derby 69
Manchester 90.
BLYDWIESER LEAGURE: Greater London
82 Thames Valley 91.

### BOXING

BOXING

BOXING

PROFESSIONAL PROMOTION (NY):

Unification bearquealgist title: E holyfield (US) drew with L Lewis (GS).

International Bosting Federation

Junior middleweight title: F Vargas

(US, holder) by H Clark (Eng), rsf 4th.

Morid Bosting Association wellerweight title: J Page (US, holder) by S

Garr (US) prs. World Bosting Association Ryweight title: L Gamez (Ven) bi

H Soto (Arg. holder) rsf 3rd.

PROFESSIONAL PROMOTION (Manchester): 12-rd vecant British (Tyweight title: O Kelly (Belfast) by A

Hanna (Birmingham) pixs. 12-rd British,
Commonwealth. European light
heavyweight title: C Woods (Eng. holdcr) by C Ashley (Eng.) stoppage 8th. 12
rd European super-bantamweight
title: M Brodie (Eng. holder) by S Medjeouse (Fr) rsf 9th. 4-rd light middleweight: B Knudsen (Den) by D Baptiste
(Balham) rsf 4th. 4-rd light middleweight: T Adaniek (Pol) by I Rhumalo (St

Pancas) rsf 1st. 4-rds light-baseymeight: T Adaniek, (Pol) by I Rhumalo (St

Pancas) rsf 1st. 4-rds light-baseymeight: T Adaniek, (Pol) by I Rhumalo (St

Pancas) rsf 1st. 4-rds light-baseymeight: T Adaniek, (Pol) by I Rhumalo (St

Pancas) rsf 1st. 4-rds light-baseymeight: D Lowry (Belfast) by C Lines

IS minigham) prs. 10-rd contral area

light-weight: D Lowry (Belfast) by C Lines

IS minigham) prs. 10-rd contral area

light-weight: B Magee (Belfast) by O

Ashton (Stoke) rsf. 2nd. W Pinder (Manchester) by P O'Rourke (Manchester) rsf

3rd. 6-rd heavyweight: C Bowen-Price

(Manchester) de With Harry Senior

(Chariton), 4-rd super middleweight: E

Revirus (Manchester) by G Jenkinson

(Lincoln) pix.

PROPESSIONAL

PROPESSIONAL

PROPESSIONAL

Fig. 2. Properson of the properso (Lincoin) pts.

PROFESSIONAL PROMOTION
(Lithack, Ger): World Boxing Organsastion Aghtweight: A Grigorian
(Utbek, holder) bt O Garda-Cario (Sp)

Vorkshire members at the annual meeting in Huddersfield on Saturday have voted in favour of taking County Championship games back to Sheffield and Harrogate from next year. The motion urges the committee to reinstate the two grounds and this will now be discussed by the general committee. Supporters of the motion claim that the club now has to abide by the members' wishes.

# 175. J M Vaughan 87; A Symonds 4-90) and 254 for 9 (D S Lehmann 78no, D A Rizgerald 57; P W Jackson 4-85), Match drawn, (Michael 1984); Victoria 263 (M P Mott 106, D S Berry 77; J Angel 5-64) and 276 for 6 dec (J L Amberger 125no, B J Hodge 50); Western Australia 258 (R J Campbell 70, S M Kadch 60) and 227 for 8 (R M Baker 80, S M Kadch 73; D J Saker 4-62), Match drawn.

CYCLING

Stanley Christodoulou Engenia Williams-

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(United States)

Holyfield

Appointed by IBF

the image of the sport. If Larry

SPORTING DIGEST

SPOKETN

LEADING BUROPEAN RYDER CUP
STANDENES (GB or Irl and see strated):
1 C Montgomerie Siso (cs. 2 M A America
(Sp) 3.787; 3 D Carke 3.453; 4 L Westwood 3.412; S S Struever (Ger) 2,660; 6
A Ceba (Ger) 2.616; 7 R Kartsson (Swe)
2.323; 6 D Howell 2.302; 9 A Coltari
2.162; 10 P Sjoland (Sne) 2,122; 11 J
Sandelin (Swe) 2.090; 12 S Webster
1.979; 13 I Bickerton 1,805; 14 8 Langer
(Ger) 1.756; 13 P McGrisley 1,715; 16 P
Fulke (Swe) 1.570; 17 P Lawrie 1,562; 18
J M Olezabati (Sp) 1.550; 19 V Philips
1.457; 20 P U Johrsson (Swe) 1.313;
VOLUDO ORDER OF MERCIT: 1 D Howell
(Engl. E155,810.71; 2 E Es [SA]
£136,087,14; S B May (LS) £119,080.71;
4 A Cella (Ger) £116,692.85; 5 J BickerLon (Engl. E112,919.28; 6 L Westwood
(Engl. £109.781.42; 7 P Lawrie (Sco)
£109,371.42; 8 J Moseley (Aus)
£108,890.71; 12 E Ramero (Arg)
£100,339.28; 11 M A Jimenez (Sp)
£97.095,71; 12 B Langer
(Ger)
£95.030.71; 13 G Norquist (US)
£94.354.28; 14 V Printips [Engl.
£82.726.57; 13 S Webster (Engl.
£82.726.57; 13 S Webster (Engl.
£82.726.57; 13 S Webster (Engl.
£82.726.57; 14 Landing theird-round

\$55.030.71: 13 G Norquist [U5]
\$28.354.29: 14 V Publips [Eng]
\$22.726.57: 13 S Webster [Coral Springs, Fla]: Loading third-round stores (US unless stated]: 208 E Booker 72: 205 B Hugtes (Aus) 70. 7 Tolles 55: 207 M Orderas 69. M Frazar 66: 208 S Appleby (Aus) 69. D Barron 68. V Singh (Fil) 69. 1 Ogible 65: 209 B Geberger 71. C Parry (Aus) 71. C Stadler 71. P Stewart 70 67 72: 210 M Bradiey 72. R Dammon 69. 8 Exes 70. 8 McCallster 72. D Pride 75. B Webts 74. D Domskey 75: 215 G Weite (NZ) 74: 214 E Els (SA) 71. C Montgomeric (GB) 72: 218 R Abertsy (Aus) 77: 219 S Use (GB) 75. SHELCH'S CRECLE R CHAMPHONISHIP, Tecson 3 Scores (US unless stated): 204 O Espeling 69 67 69: 205 M Redman 71 69 65. D Pepper 67 69 69; 206 H Story 72 68 65. N Scranton 70 65 71: 207 C Matthew (GB) 73 69 55: 208 I Green 68 73 67. S R Pais (S Kor) 67 72 59. J linkster 68 71 69: 205 N Webb (Aus) 74 69 66. K Robbins 72 67 70. T Hanson 71 67 71. H Alfredson (Swe) 69 67 73. K Abers 72 67 70: 210 L Undley 72 71 67. O Richard 72 70 68. L Prido 71 70 69. M Livin (Aus) 71 69 70. C Sorenstam (Swe) 72 77. C Milleen 68 71 77. C N (Milleen 68 71 77. C N (Milleen 68 71 77. C N (Milleen 68 71 77. C R (Milleen 68 71 77.

PIFTM TEST (Cape Town, SA): South Africa 3 Australia 6 (Australia win series e-1). EHL Premier: Bournville 6 Guildford 2; Brooklands 2 Berston 5; Cannock 13 East

Grinstead 3; Cancerbury 2 Southgate 4;
Old Loughtoniams 3 Reading 7; Teddington 3 Hourslow 1. Leading poolslowed: 1 Cannock (P19, Pts 46); 2
Southgate (19-43); 5 Reading (19-37).
First: Division: Hull 1 Surbiton 1:
Orientation of Barford Tigers 3; Doncasser
2 Harleston Magoles 2; Easttote 1
Oxford Hawks 0; Hampstead 6 Westmirester 1 Indian Gymkhana 2; Havant 1
Lewes 2; Hull 6 Duford Unix; 3; Isra 1
Bromley 4; 5t Albars 0 Loughborough
Students 2; Shoffeld 3 First-Parants 2;
Stourport 3 Surbiton (P18, Pts 44); 2 Doncaster (18-43); 3 Lewes (18-41).
SOUTM Premier: High Wycombe 1
Fareham 2. Standingst 1 Fareham (P19,
Pts 44, champions); 2 Wilmbledon (1943); 3 Odd Cranleighams (1942); 5 Khatsa (2041); PREMMER: HOLIDAYS EAST Presulter
Bedford Rown 1 Blueharts 2: Colchester
1 Bishops Scortford 2: Crostyx 6 Cambridge City 1; pswich 3 Cambridge Univ
8; Peterborough Town (1941); 1 Standings: 1 Peterborough Town (1941); 2 Sandings: 1 Peterborough Town (1941); 3 Cambridge Univ (1748); 1 Southport 3 Ban Rhydding 1.
Standings: 1 Peterborough Town (1941); 2 Sandings: 1 Fromby (P21, Pts 47); 2
Sheffield Bankers (2040); 3 Bowdon
(2144); Westers (1841); 5
Bath Buccaneers (1842); 6 Peterborough Jown (1943); 8 Outhport 3 Ban Rhydding 1.
Standings: 1 Peterborough Town (198); 2 Southport 3 Ban Rhydding 1.
Standings: 1 Peterborough Town (198); 2 Southport 3 Ban Rhydding 1.
Standings: 1 Peterborough Town (198); 2 Southport 3 Ban Rhydding 1.
Standings: 1 Peterborough Town (198); 2 Southport 3 Ban Rhydding 1.
Standings: 1 Peterborough Town (198); 2 Southport 3 Ban Rhydd

Scandings: 1 Whitchurch (P18, Pts 45, champlons); 2 Robinsons (18-41); 5 Bath Buccaneers (18-32), weekers? Self. Presser: Pyffes Lekester 5 Doncaster (16-32), weekers? Self. Presser: Pyffes Lekester 5 Doncaster (16-10), other levraques: 1 Citron Scortish Life 0; Slough 3 jaswich 3; Surton Coldfield 2 Hightown 2; Doncaster 2 Ofton Ferraquest 1. Leading postitions: 1 Slough [P13, Pts29); 2 jaswich (14-29); 5 Hightown (14-23), Pirst Divisions: Aldridge (14-23), Pirst Divisions: Aldridge (14-21), Winbiedon 2 Loughborough Students 3 Bradford 1; Itolians 2 Sunderland Asthrooke 1; Winbiedon 2 Loughborough Students 3 Bradford 2; Leading postitions: 1 Cancerbury (P14, Prs26); 2 Cheimsford (14-25), promoted); 3 Aldridge (14-22), WOMBER'S WEST Premier: Cheltenham 0 Taunton Vale 1; Cotwall 0 Exmouth 0; Portished Firebrands 1 Bournemouth 1; Redlands 2 Exeter 1; 51 Aussell 1 Leominster 1. Standings: 1 Densite Ramblers (16-37); 3 Exeter (15-30), WOMBER'S MORTH Division One: Chester 1 Liverpool 2; Deeside Ramblers (14-24), Women's 1 Deeside Ramblers (14-24), Women's 1 Parleston Magpies 2 Bury St Edmunds 0; Letchworth 2 Cambridge (Ity 1, Standings: 1 Deeside Ramblers (P14, Pts 37); 2 Liverpool (14-25); 3 Chester (15-30), WOMBER'S EAST Pressier: Ashford 2 (pswich 4; Blueharts 2 Dereham 3; Harleston Magpies 2 Bury St Edmunds 0; Letchworth 2 Cambridge (Ity 1, Standings: 1 Harleston Magpies (P14, Pts 36); 2 Sevenous (14-27); 3 Janaich (14-25). WOMBER'S MEDIAND Pressier (P14, Pts 31); 2 Loughborough Students (13-27); 3 Kettering (15-26).

WOMEN'S SOUTH Divisors One: Hendon 1 Maidenhead 4: Horsham 3 Winchester 0: Southampton 3 Rower Cowley 3: Reading 2 Dulwich 4: Tube Hill 4 West Wirney 0. Standings: 1 Dulwich (P19, Ps 47); 2 Rower Cowley (20-46); 3 Tube Hill (19-41).

TRYSPORTS WOMEN'S THREE COUNTYS Division Ower City of Oxford 0 Bracknell 7: Farnham Common 1 Wycombe Rye 2: Milton Keynes 1 West Witney 2: Oxford Hawks. 1 Caford Univ. 3: Newbury 4 Henley 1; Wokingham 3 Sonning 4. Standings: 1 Newbury 1P15, Pts 37); 2 Bracknell (14-35); 5 Oxford Hawks (16-33).

RALLYIN G

David Higgins won the Vaundali Rally of Wales yesterday, the opening round of this year's Mobil 1 British Championship, by 13 seconds from title-holder Martin Rowe. Higgins, younger brother of 1997 champion Mark, took the lead after five of the nine stages extended his advantage over yesterday's three concluding tests. Higgins is ineligible for the British Championship as his Subaru Impreza is of different specification to the two-litre cars so that meant Rowe took the maximum 32 points.

SK 11 N G

ALPINE WORLD CUP FINALS (Sterra Newada, Sp) Rien's stadom: 1 T Stangassinger (Aut) 1 min SO.445ec (54.84 first leg, 55.60 second leg); 2 K A Aznodt (Nor) 1:50.67 (54.44.56.23); 3 M Catanova (Swit) 1:51.19 (55.30, 55.89); 4 O Plaschy (Swit) 1:51.65 (54.61, 57.04); 5 C Moyer (Aut) 1:52.65 (55.44, 57.21); 7 O C Furuseth (Norl 1:52.67 (56.52, 56.15); 8 M Eberle (Gerl 1:53.04 (55.84, 57.21); 7 O C Furuseth (Norl 1:53.65 (56.49, 56.67); 10 F C lagge (Nor) 1:53.52 (56.56, 57.06). Final World Corp stations examinage 1 T Scangassinger (Aut) 566pcs: 2 J Kosir (Soven) 415; 3 F C lagge (Nor) 386; 4= P Borgeat (Fr), K A Azmodt (Nor) 363.

NHL Pittsburgh 4 Philadelphia 0: 5t Louis 6 Edmonton 4: Montreal 2 Toronto 1: Washington 4 Calgary 5 (07): Bullato 3 Boston 1: Piorida 1 Tampa Bay 0: Phoenix 1 Anaheim 0: Los Angeles 3 Vancouver 1: San Jose 3 Ottawa 2: SEXONDA SUPERLEAGUE, Playoffst 8 racknet 4 Manchester 2: London 3 Sheffield 4 (ot): Nottingham 3 Ayr 2.

to the two-litre cars so that meant Rowe took the maximum 32 points. VAUGHALL RALLY OF WALES Leading froat positions: 1 D Figgins (IoM) Subaru Impreza 2th 22min 00 Asec: 2 M Rowe (IoM) Renault Megane plus 13.0sec; 3 T Laukkanen (Fin) Renault Megane +27.2: 4 D Buckley (Sco) Mitsubishi Lancer +2min 17.8sec; 5 M Higgins (IoM) Volkswagen Goul +2:57.1: 6 J Kytolehro (Fin) Vaunhall Astra +4:59.3; 7 N Wearden (Eng) Vaunhall Astra +6:02.5: 8 J Eason (Eng) Mitsubshi Lancer +6:04.0; 3 R Tuthill (Eng) Subaru Impreza +6:119.3; 10 5 Egglestone (Eng) Ford Escort at 6:48.5. ONESPIEP Lacost standings: Drivers: 1 Rows 32pts; 2 Lauktonen 28; 3 M Hig-gins 25: 4 Kytolehro 22; 5 Wearden 20 Manufacturens: 1 Renaul; 16; 2 Volk-

(1:03.79, 1:00.61); S H Schlichegger [Aut] 2:04.44 [1:04.15, 1:00.28]; 4 S Eberharter (Aut] 2:04.51 (1:04.23, 1:00.28]; S K A Amnodt (Nor) 2:05.13 [1:04.40, 1:00.73]; 6 H Knauss (Aut) 2:05.42 (1:05.04, 1:00.38]; 7 K Klps (Nor) 2:05.88 (1:05.66, 59.82); D M Buechel [Lich] 2:05.89 (1:04.64, 1:01.25); 9 J Chenal [Fr] 2:06.01 (1:05.27, 1:00.74); 10 P Accola (Swit) 2:06.08 (1:05.05, 1:01.03). Final glant statement standings: 1 Von Gruenigen 519pcs; 2 Eberharter 410; 3 H Maier (Aut) 371; 4 Aamod 335; 5 C Mayer (Aut) 370; 4 Eberharter 1,029; 5 Knauss 913.

3 Maler 1, 307, 4 Eberharter 1,029, 5
Knauss 913.
Women's glant stations: 1 A Wachter
(Aut) Zmin 08.81sec (1:06.37, 1:02.44);
2 A Octosson (Swef) 2:10.54, (1:07.69,
1:02.86); 5 A Flemmen (Nor) 2:10.59
(1:07.82, 1:02.77); 4 5 Nef (Swit)
2:11.19 [1:07.80, 1:03.39); 5 L Piccard
(Fr) 2:11.35 [1:06.76, 1:04.59); 6 C Rey
Bellet [Swit; 2:11.64 [1:07.82,
1:03.82); 7 D Compagnand (tt) 2:11.83
(1:08.22, 1:00.61); 8 A Melssmitzer
(Aut) 2:12.01 (1:08.41, 1:03.60), 3 5
Betthod (Swif) 2:12.11 [1:08.25,
1:03.88); 10 K Roten [Swit] 2:17.59
(1:09.01, 1:03.58); Phala glant station
standings: 1 A Melssmitzer [Aut)
752prs; 2 Wachter 696; 3 Flemmen 598,
4 Nef 377, Final overall standings: 1
Melssnitzer 2.042ptc; 2 H Gerg (Ger)
(1-41); 5 R Götsch [Aut] 1,349, 4 M Erti
(Ger) 1,233; 5 P Wiberg [Swe] 1,183,
Final Nacions' Cup standings: 1 Ausrial 15,995pts (men 9,105, women
6,890); 2 Norwuy 6,228 [4,409, 1,819];
3 Switzerland 5,547 (3,162, 2,385); 4
ltoly 4,525 (2,239, 2,013), 5 Fronce
3,986 (1,545, 2,441)

S K I J U M P I N G
WORLD CUP (Octo, Nor): 1 N Kasal
(Japan) 253.4 pts (123.0, 117.5 metres):
2 M Schmitt (Ger) 245.5 (114.0, 123.5);
3 K Funaki (Japan) 241.4 (117.5, 115.5);
4 J Suchacek (Cz Rep) 239.2 (116.0,
118.0); 5 J Ahonen (Fin) 238.0 (114.0,
118.5); Lasading szaszdings (arber 25 of
29 events): 1 Ahonen 1,589 pts; 2
Schmitt 1,513; 5 Funaki 1,423; 4 Kasal
1,388; 5 5 Hannawald (Ger) 806.

CHINA INTERNATIONAL (Shanghal): Semi-Finals: B Shaddon (Sco) bt S Hendry (Sco) 6-2; I Higgms (Sco) bt A McManus (Sco) 6-4. Final: Higgms bt Snaddon 9-3.

SPEED 5 KATING
WORLD SINGLE DISTANCE CHAMPIONSHIPS [Heerenveen, Nech]:
Mexc. 500cm: 1 H Shimizu (Japan)
70.690sec (35.43 lirs) run. 35.26 second run]: 2 E Wennemars (Nech) (35.61.
35.77); 3 J J Leeuwangh (Nech) 71.830
(35.81, 36.02), 1,000cm: 1 J Bos (Nech)
Imin 10.41sec; 2 H Shimizu (Japan)
1:10.75. 3 J J Leeuwangh (Nech) 1:10.79, 1500cm: 1 Poisma (Nech) 1:min
47.92sec; 2 A Somdraf (Nor) 1:48.25; S
R Ritzma (Nech) 1:49.28. Wiomena:
1,000cm: 1 M Timmer (Nech) 1:16.21;
2 M Garbrecht (Ger) 1.16.75; S C Lemoy
Doan (Can) 1:16.97. 1,500 metries: 1
E Hurwandy (Auc) 1:58.29; 2 G Niermann
[Ger] 1:58 43; S 7 de Jong (Nech)
1:59.77.

## DOURGES (17) NO STREET TOUTOUSE CENTRAL WOMEN'S gen (Switz) 2min 04 33 ec (1:03.40, OPEN Pirst round: 7 Mails (Wal) bt R 1:00.93); 2 5 Locher (Swit) 2:04.40 Halph (Eng.) 9-1 9-1 9-1; C Castets (Fr)

bi S Jacemnot (Fr) 9-2 9-1 9-0; V Borwinght (Engl bt D Crutchshank (Scot) 9-3 9-2 9-1; D Harris (Aus) bi A Moura (Bra) 9-4 9-9 9-1. Pochoda (US) bt C Cogan (Engl 6-9 9-4 5-9 9-6 9-7; 3 Shabaha (Eg) bi 5 Posterns (ht) 9-4 9-5 9-2; K Paasmeta (Fin) bt L Bruniera (Fr) 9-3 4-9 9-4 10-8; 7 Shenton (Engl bi C Boggo (Fr) 9-2 9-9 • Charaver-finals: Mails, bt Costers 9-3 7-9 9-4 9-0. Botwinght bt Harris 9-3 9-6 9-7, Shabaha bt Pochoda 9-1 9-1 9-4; Shenton bt Paaswitta 9-2 9-5 9-4 Semi-finals: Mails bt Botwinght 9-3 9-9 9-5, Shabaha bt Shenton 10-8 10-8 9-0

ot Kotonowska; Apgyama bi Ganya Miyabiyama bi Wakanosato, Minatastuji bi Tochimonada, Toki bi Tamakasuga; Higo-noumi bi Zerao; Tochina bi Rigo-noumi bi Zerao; Tochina bi Kotonomaka, Musoyama bi Takatorilu, Takanonam te Tosanoumi; Dejima bi Chiporakai, Aki-noshima bi Musashimatu; Takanohana bi Kotonishiki; Wakanohana bi Kato.

TABLE TENNIS
ENGLISH OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS
(Varmouth): Men's singles, third
round: M Wenge (Ch) bi V Samsonov
(Bela) 21-12 19-21 21-11 17-21 21-18.
J Hoang (Can) bi C Legout (Fri 21-17
21-17 22-20; C Quinti (Part) bi M Monrad (Den) 21-13 25-23 21-15; J Persson
(Swe) bi C P Lung (Gwel 21-19 5-21 21-8
21-14; W Schlager (Aur) bi O Eto (Fr)
11-21 21-19 21-13 21-8: 7 Keen (Hol)
bi Y Min (It) 21-10 21-18 21-17, K Tael
Soo (Kor) bi L Blasaczyk (Pol) 21-15,
21-12; 21-14; P Chila (Fr) bi Y Mi Kyu
(Kor) 21-15, Quarger-finals; Wenge bi 300 (Ab) 21-14; P. Chila (Fr) bt Y. M. Kyu. (Ros) 21-15; Onanreer-finals: Wenge bt Chant 21-14 22-20 21-13; Persson bt Huang. 14-21. 21-10. 21-18. 21-11; Schlager bt. Keen. 23-24. 19-21. 21-12. 17-21. 21-17; K. Taek Soo bt. Chila. 21-16. 21-10. 21-17; K. Taek Soo bt. Chila. 21-16. 21-10. 21-17; K. Taek Soo bt. Chila. 21-18. 15-21. 25-25. Taek Soo bt. Schlager. 21-19. 25-27. 22-20. 12-21. 21-14. Wilcomean's singles: bland round: A. Boileau. [Fr] bt. T. Fernlang. (Taliny.) 26-24. 24-22. 21-17. Chilarreer-finals: M. Steff. (Rom.) bt. J. Tan-Zorner. (Ger.) 21-16. 21-19; A. Boileau. [Fr] bt. S. Eun. At. [S. Kor.] 21-17. 21-16. 15-21. 21-15; G. Jun. (U.S.) bt. K. Moe. Kyo. (S. Kor.) 19-21. 12-21. 21-14. 21-19. 21-14. J. Schopp. (Ger.) bt. R. J. Hye. (Kor.) 18-21. 21-19. 21-16. 21-10. Semi-finals: Schopp. bt. Steff. 21-17. Double. 21-17. 21-16. 21-10.

NEWSMACEK CHAMPIONS CUP (Indian Wells, Ca) Men's Organer-Finals: C Moya (50) bt K Kucero (Slovak) 6-4 6-4; C Woodrulf (US) bt 7 Herman (GB) 6-1 1-6 7-5; G Kucrten (Bra) bt R Krajteck (Hol) 6-4 6-4; M Philippoussis (Aus) bt T Martin (US) 3-6 7-5 6-1. Semi-Finals: Moya bt Kucrten 6-3 1-6 6-1; Philippoussis bt Woodrulf 6-1 6-2.

EVERT CUP (Indian Media 6-1) poussis bt Woodruff 6-1 6-2.

EVERT CUP (Indian Wells, Ca)

Women's singles Final: 5 Williams (U5)

bt 5 Graf (Ger) 6-3 3-6 7-5.

DAVIS CUP: Asla-Oceania Zone

Group Three: Malaysia bt Hong Kong

2-1; Tajikistan bt Phofic Oceania 3-0;

Bangladesh bt Syna 2-1. (Malaysia and

Hong Kong are promoted to Group Two.

Soudi Arabia and Bahrain relegated to

the Group Four).

# Route a late addition to the ritual

and fanfares for the uncommon horses have already begun. Cheltenham has begun to welcome the greatest athletes that the National Hunt sport can offer for this week's Festival and the gauntlets are down.

Florida Pearl, the Gold Cup favourite, was in situ hy Saturday afternoon but he was not the first contestant to arrive. That honour belonged to Imperial Call, the Blue Riband hero three years ago. It usually does. "Imperial Call has been the first horse to arrive here for the last three years," Edward Gillespie, the Cheltenham managing director, said yesterday.
"He's staying over the road with a friend.

"He's almost like our doorkeeper and nobody is allowed to arrive until he is here. Even when he doesn't run in the future, he'll have to come over otherwise nobody will turn up.

"It's almost part of this pyschology that I'm the boss. It's my territory, these are my gallops and the other horses are coming in only because I say they can. They're not treating and they're getting the horse in the right frame of mind."

Both the early arrivals at reception represent an Irish contingent which promises to be extraordinarily successful this for the last two races. week. Standing forward in the travelling guard will also be a bit now." the trainer said. Istabraq, an uncommonly warm favourite for tomorrow's Champion Hurdle. "The Irish enthusiasm will either be dented on the first day or they will be trampling over us after a few hours," Gillespie added.

Britain and Ireland. It's like difficult to know how the form relates. Race one might well set the whole scene and if the home side win that one it could be like holding out the siege."

The challenges are booked and so are the crowds. Thursday is sold out and the indicabusier than the opening day, ly to interrupt Paul Nicholls's it. It's worth it.

THE DRAWBRIDGE is down By RICHARD EDMONDSON

which does not mean you will be able to spread out the picnic blanket tomorrow.

The planning is running so smoothly that Gillespie even allows himself a moment's tipping reflection. "Istabraq only wor by a length, albeit an easy looking length at Leopardstown, but I think a place on French Holly is the best bet of all time," he said. The refund situation for this statement will be made clearer during the week.

Direct Route may transpire to be a Biblical figure asking for room at a well stocked inn as he is likely to be sent down just in advance of his assault on

RICHARD EDMONDSON Nap: Andsuephi NB: Tissue Of Lies (Plumpton 3.30)

Wednesday's Queen Mother Champion Chase.

The gelding sullied his credentials at Ascot last month when he hroke a blood vessel it like a normal race meeting and came back as dehydrated as blotting paper. Howard Johnson, his trainer, yesterday confirmed that Norman liamson would be back at the control panel after being absent

"He's coming back to himself We'll probably take him down to Cheltenham the day before his race. When we took him down a bit earlier before his last one he probably thought he was going to run there and then and, in the end, he didn't know if he was coming or going and the Africans and the Americans he didn't drink. He's normally meeting in the Olympics. It's a good traveller and was no trouble when he went to Ireland last April to win at the Pun-

chestown Festival." The equine trouble for Direct Route this time comes largely in the shape of Call Equiname, who is 9-4 favourite for the Champion Chase in one hook tors are that Wednesday will be and the horse thought most like-

dreary sequence at the Festival, We have several chances and every race at Cheltenham is hard to win but Call Equiname must have as good a chance as any," the trainer said yesterday. "Touch wood, everything is fine with him at the moment."

The celestial intercourse by Philip Arkwright, the clerk of the course, seems to have been productive as glorious, spring-like weather is anticipated at Prestbury Park this week. This should help some of Ditcheat's big guns. The forecast for the week is good and it should be decent ground," Nicholls said. "I hope it dries up a bit as that would suit our Gold Cup pair [Double Thriller and See More Business].

Spreading daffodil cups could also mean a return to a seat of glory for Cool Dawn, a 25-1 chance when successful in the Blue Riband last year. He has run like swine since but there have been signs of his renaissance at Robert Alner's yard. "Cool Dawn is fit and well but it is a waste of time running him if it is holding or soft," Sally Alner, the trainer's wife, said. "He will run if the ground is good, but it has got to be good."

There were connections several abreast walking the old turf yesterday as the preliminaries began to be played out. "It's part of the ritual," Gillespie said. "They'll park the car in the same place, go in by the same entrance and talk to the same people.

Following a trusted route was Nicky Henderson, who strode out with Makounji's owner, Robert Waley-Cohen, before announcing that the mare would run in the Arkle Trophy tomorrow, with the addition of hlinkers. "Blinkers may be the answer to keep her mind on the game over the first few fences," the trainer said.

But, before that, she will have to talk her way past Imperial Call to get into the changing rooms. Approach and entrance to the Festival is always a problem to man and beast alike but we keep doing



Lordberniebouffant and Philip Hide (left) on their way to victory in Saturday's EBF Hurdle Final at Sandown

### Festival success can be found in the pool

LOSING MONEY to those pleas- BY CHRIS COKRIGAN ant females in Cheltenham's Tote booths is somehow more tolerable than losing it to a surly boards-bookie, But there are other reasons to prefer Tote pool betting at the Festival.

A £10 win bet placed on all 20 winners at last year's Festival would have produced the following returns on each of the three days: £665 Tote versus £580 starting price (Tuesday); £621 to £508 (Wednesday); £918 to £726 (Thursday).

Bookmakers' odds usually offer better value for the first two or three horses in the betting. But beyond those, Tote win dividends are almost always larger, particularly in big fields.

Last year, for example, Alexander Banquet (9-1 SP) paid £16.60 for a Tote win bet (including £1 stake). In contrast, Unsinkable Boxer (5-2 SP) paid

£2.90 on the Tote - less than 2-1. Place betting comparisons are more complex. Tote place dividends can vary drastically. Last year, Lord Dorcet was third in the Champion Chase at 50-1, but the Tote place was £4.00 -equivalent to an SP of just 12-1.

One way to exploit this unpredictability is to find a little-used Tote booth in some far-flung corner of the track. Then, before each race, keep your eyes glued to screens displaying the latest Tote odds.

Freak dividends are sometimes projected and a shrewd, last-moment bet can he placed if there is no queue. It is doubtful, though, that this pastime would appeal to all Festival visitors. They would miss most of the action on the course, for a start. And they could still lose.

### FOR THE NOTEBOOK

HORSES TO GO ON TO BETTER THINGS

COLONEL YEAGER, unlike the pioneering American pilot after whom he was named, will not be breaking any sound barriers. But he is expected to run speedily at Cheltenham

The five-year-old is by no means Ireland's hottest fancy for the Festival's opening race, the Supreme Novices' Hurdle, but that should not deter punters from taking the 12-1 on offer with the Tote. William Hill cut his price from 10-1 to 8-1 yesterday.

The Irish have a stunning record at Cheltenham, hut that success is down to strength in depth - not just down to their better-fancied horses. Frequently, Ireland's less-heralded runners beat the hot-shots.

At last year's Festival, for

Christy Roche's Joe Mac (6-4 favourite) in the Bumper. And Pat Flynn's French Ballerina (10-1) beat Mouse Morris's His Song (4-1 favourite) in the Supreme Novices'. The trend could continue in

Cardinal Hill and Joe Mac share the top slots in the antepost betting, at around 9-4 and 7-2 respectively.

But the one to watch out for is Colonel Yeager, trained by Martin Lynch near Geoghegan, Co Westmeath. Owned by Captain Cathal

Ryan, of the family that creexample, Willie Mullins's ated Ryanair, Colonel Yeager Alexander Banquet (9-1) beat has been flying high himself.

He has had four races over hurdles, winning three times, The sole defeat came at Leopardstown at Christmas when he was beaten one and a half lengths by Joe Mac. The latter had a 3lb pull that day hut the weights are level tomorrow, Among other reasons for believing Lynch's horse can gain revenge, is the steep uphill finish at Chel-

tenham. "He's hred to stay and he's this year's Supreme Novices'. a real battler," Lynch said yesterday. "I've no doubts about his stamina up that hill. He's the nearest thing to Forrest Gump I've seen in a horse. He's so disappointed when you try to pull him up after a gallop. He never wants

to stop." Lynch confirmed that Richard Dunwoody has been

Chris Corrigan

### **TAUNTON**

2.10 Connaught Crackers 4.10 True Vision 2.40 Out'N'About 4.40 Kaloore 3.10 Andsuephi 5.10 Mr Leroi

3.40 Cage Aux Folles

GOING: Soft.

E Right-hand course, Run-in of 150yds.

E Course is S of town on B3170, Taunton station 2m, ADMISSION: Members £ti; Paddock £9; Centre of course £5, CAR PARK; Centre of course £3; remainder free.

FIVE-YEAR STATISTICS

44.223 (18.7%), P Hobbe 29-118 (24.6%), R Hodges 17 FIVE-YEAR STATISTICS

ILLEADING TRAINERS: M Pipe 44-223 (187%), P Hobbe 29-118 (345%), R Hodges 17160 (105%), P Nicholis 11-92 (25%)

ILLEADING JOCKEYS: A P NicCoy 29-147 (197%), M A Fitzgerald 16-74 (216%), C
Mande 15-98 (153%), N Williamson 13-59 (22%).

III FAVOURITES: 155 wins from 430 rides (aucoesa rate 38,4%),
BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Francesca's Folly (430), Kaloore (440).

2.10 WELLINGTON MONUMENT HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS F) £4,000 added 2m 110yds Penalty Value £2,775 

Montain weight 19st True handicap weight South Woof Express Set 19th. BETTING: 11-8 Connaught Cracker, 3-1 South West Express, 7-2 Northern Saddler, 8-2 Japon's Boy, 14-1 Stent Guns, 20-1 Pontynyawen 1946 Beyond Our Roach 10 10 3 J Harris (6) 7-2 (R Hodges) 7 ran

FORM GUIDE

Pontymyswem: Has not run over jumps since unsealing his noter at the last when 3rd and beaten at Worcestor in June, 1996. Only outing since then on AW at Whompton. and beaten at Wercestor in June, 1996. Only outing since then on AW at Whompton the following November, so long absence to overcome. Commanghir Crackier: Hos finished 2nd 3 times over C8D this season to some useful performers, including Fourth in Line. Deserves to go one better and easier task here Northern Seddler: Most consistent and though past his best can always be relied upon to be thereabours. Quick reappearance after finishing 3nd to Shadrach at Hereford (2m, good to soft) on Finday. Jason's Boys: Ran one of his better races (7fb out of though when 2nd to Hardecent at Doncsire (2m3, good) last morth. Does not find much in a finish. Silent Guma: Setting chaser, has talled to complete in 3 point-to-points this season, letter the trailed off at Bactury Rings last morth. Probably does not stay 3m and suited by drop back in the

ed by drop back in trip South West Express: Nowce chaser, has made the running in his last 2 outings and was still going well when he was hampered and unsested his rider at the 10th at Lud-low (2" in) last month. Chance over this shorter trip

VERDICT: Northern Saddler and Jeson's Boy usually find one too good for them. so this should concern CONNAUGHT CRACKER and South West Express. The for-mer has less to do than on his other three visits here this season and though he fell last time is usually a safe enough jumply.

2.40 MELODY MAN HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS E) £4,000 added 2m 3f 110yds Penalty Value £2,77S CCAF OUTWABOUT (77) (E Guine & M Krystofisk) P Nicrols 4 11 10 ... Mr \$ Strongs (7) CCAF NORTHERN DRUMS (20) (C) (R Pezia) M Ppa 6 11 9 ... ... A P McCoy 6-522F MERSHIGINER (79) (Germore Investments) 8 Snerwood 8 11 6 ... ... D Gellagher A3805 MR SNAGQULE (11) (D) (Plum Merchants) 5 Earle 10 10 4 ... ... JA McCanthy 556-44 FLAHIVE'S FIRST (11) (D) Gould R J Proc 5 10 3 ... ... A Dobbin MISSED THE BOAT (F782) (D BF) (R Harding) Mrs S Williams 9 10 2 ... R Widger (S) 6 declared —

BETTING: 6-4 Out N'About, 4-1 Northern Drums, 9-2 Merchiolner, 6-1 Flatilite's First, 7-1 Mr Sresggle, 14-1 Missed The Boat 1898. D'Naan 5 Tr. 2 J Lower 8-1 (M Pipe) 12 ran

FORM GUIDE

Out N'About: Returns after an 11-week break following disappointing run at Chepstow (2m. soft) when he was well behind when failing 4 out. Worth another chance Northern Druths: Twice a winner here over 2m1t Fell at first on reoppearance in a chase at Luciow lest month. Yet to win on ground worse than good, but has shown

iner: Beaten 5th when led last at Hereford (2m3), soft) last time in first run in A handcap. Runner-up in 2 novice hundles before that and plenty to do at the weights. Mr Snaggle: One time useful hundler/chaser and well handicapped on old form. Weak-ened 2 out when 5th to Two Lords at Ludlow (2m5), soft) last time and meets Flahwe's

First (4m) on only 15 better terms for B lengths
Flathwe's First: Seet form on lest ground. Besten 2 out when 4th to Two Lords at Lud-low (2m5t, soft) lest time and only 116 worse off for 8 lengths with Mr Sneggle (5th)
Missed The Boot: Unlucky 2nd (saddle sigped) when test ran over jumps August,
1996. First outing since well beaten 10th of 11 on AW at Whampton. February 1997 VERDICT: Northern Drums has a suff task in handleaps now as he is 20th above his highest wirning mark over hundles. As he is probably better on faster ground this could go to OUTN'ABOUT. He has had a break since his poor effort in a Grade One event at Chepstow in December and showed he can cope with soft ground when sec and to Roborant at Lingfield that month.

3.10 ORCHARD RESTAURANT NOVICE CHASE (CLASS D) £6,500 added 2m 3f Penalty Value £4,577

BETTING: 10-11 Lareda, 11-10 Anthropphi, 10-11 Espo's Of Dewn, 33-1 Pole Kit 1999: Aranti Express 8 11 3 N Williamson 6-4 (C Egertun) 4 ren FORM GUIDE

Laredo: Improving novice, showed a good turn of foot when winning at Wincanton (2m5), good to soft) last week. Still liable to make the odd mistaliat, but learning with every

run
Andsusphi: Made a successful charing debut at Wincanton (2m5t, soft) in January
and then appeared not to stay 3m when 3rd at Ascot. Sound chance here in receipt
of 6to from Larado of 6th from Euracio Echo'rs Of Dawn: Irish point-to-point winner. Only modest form in novice chases and could make no impression from 3 out when 3rd to Benker Court at Catterick @m3t, Could make no impression from a out when any to be mer count at cattering parts, soft) less time Polo Kits First outing since October, 1996, and first for new yard when pulled up be-fore 6th in selling hundle at Pontwell (2!/4m, good) in December

VERDICT: Andsumpful tailed to confirm the promise he showed at Wincenton when pulled up over a longer trip at Ascot next time. There is still a slight question mark over him and even though the drops back in trip the faces a lough opponent in LAREDO. Paul Nicholst sov-year-old has to concade 6th, but he is undoubtably on the upgrade and his jumping should improve as he gains experience.

,	3	.40	SANNACOTT MAIDEN HURDLE (CLASS E) £3,000 added 2m 3f 110yds Penalty Value £2,453
	1	U-00	CASHABAN (14) (M J Smith) J Smith 6 # 5
	2	a	CONORA (NZ) (25) (J Russell) O O'NoE 6 11 5
1	3	-40360	GO-ONNYSON (75) (Impenel Group)   Williams 6 tl 5
,	4	060F-	KILARNEY KING (289) (T J Myles) K Bel 8 tl 5 M Ahem
	5		LONGSTONE LAD (11) (G F Edwards) G Edwards 7 tl 5
	8	30	TWINNINGS GROVE (21) Mars S C Nelson) T George 8 11 0
1	-		BATSWING (F191) (R Withers) 8 R Milman 4 to 10
	E	40	CAGE AUX POLLES (10) (Mrs J Kely) N Williams 4 10 10 A Dobbin
	ğ		RAID (P303) (Mrs A Borkley) P Nicholis 4 to 10
	10	50	MARQUANTE (10) (Mrs. J.L. Ersent D. Windle 4 10 5

10 50 MARQUANTE (10) (Mrs J L Egen; D Winde 4 10 5 \_\_\_\_\_\_ Magford (7) \_\_\_\_\_ 10 declared \_\_\_\_\_ BETTING: 7-4 Raid, 3-1 Cage Aux Folias, 4-1 Longatione Lad, 11-2 Batawing, 8-1 Go-costyson, 16-1 Kitamay King, 20-1 Twinning Grove, Marquante, 25 Conora, 53 Castaban 1998 Fizzmaurice 6 11 5 S McNeil 5-4 law (C Brooks) 11 ran FORM GUIDE

Cashaban: Unseated his noter at the 6th on his only start in point-to-points lest seeson. Beaten a long way in both outings over hundes and setters more his mark.
Conoraz Placed on Flat in New Zeetand. Behind from 4th when haked off 10th of 12 to
Auetaier over CSD (good to soft) on hunding debut fast month.
Go-Ommyston: First run since leaving Norman Bebbage and has shown some ability.
Including when 4th to Did You Know in a NH Flat race over CSD (firm) in October
Klampery King: Jumping let him down in both races over hundies lest season. Showed
a kittle promise before that on 2nd outing in a bumper, but will have to improve on what
he has shown so far.

a little promise before that on 2nd outing in a bumper, but will have to improve on what he has shown so far Longatone Lack Appeared not to stay 3m when 3rd here leat month. Better effort when 3rd over C&D (soft) last time and good chance in the weak event. Terimings Grover That in mases, NH Felf race at Folkestone (2mt), heavy) in January. Weakened 3f out when 9th of 16 in sinilar event at Bangor (3mt) good) next time Batawing: Handicapper on Flat, won 5f maden at Lingfield (soft) in 1997. Showed nothing in 3 outings last season and has yet to race beyond 10t, though should stay 2m on the easy course. Cage Aux Folkes Won have on Flat last season over 1m3f and 11/am. Beaten 42 lengths when 1th of 11 at Newbury (2m3f, soft) last time, but showed promise when 4th on burding debut over C&D fact month. Went have been promise when 4th on burding debut over C&D fact month. Went have been stay of the stay of the stay of the stay. First run since, but from a stable whose runners rarely fail through lack of fitness. Marquente: Winner on Pat in France at Fontainableau (heavy) in October Pulled too hard on hurding debut at Folkestone in January and beaten 8 langtre by Cage Aux Folkes (7th) when 8th at Newbury next time.

VERDICT; hish import Raid is hard to assess, though as he only won a six-number maiden at Downpatrick the Sealthood is that he is nothing out of the ordinary. Long-stone Laid ran as well as could be expected behind Flagship Therese here lest time and this looks within the scope of CAGE AUX FOILLES. Tony DODbin is an interesting booking for this former John Fills four-year-old, who made a promising hurdles debut here lest month.

4.10 MARCH SELLING HURDLE (CLASS G) £2,000 added 2m 1f Penalty Value £1,481

61P-04 MISTER WOODSTRCK (88) (D) (D J & C B Clapham) J Spearing 6 ft 9 ... IT Thorston
F50-31 TRUE VISION (6) (D) (F Hadden) M Poe 5 ft 4 ... ... A P McCoy
0-0-00 MUHASSEL (24) (R W Welpdel; K Morgan 8 ft 2 ... ... ... ... A Dobbin
00F WICKED GAME (6) (Mss E J Jones) B Lleading 5 ft 2 ... ... ... ... ... ... Michael Brasnan
500:53 ALLEGIANCE (46) (D) (P Wegmann) P Wegmann 4 ft 1 1 ... ... ... ... ... Michael Brasnan
0-0 WILLET WITCH (76) (D Stephans) Mss V Stephans 5 ft 7 ... ... ... ... ... ... Midae V Staphans
CANDY TWIST (F112) (Courtess of Tyrone) Lord Tyrone 4 ft 0.3 ... ... ... ... ... ... Midger (5)
FRANCESCA'S FOLLY (F68) (Browers Arms) C Popham 4 ft 0.3 ... ... ... O McPhael (5) S

8 FRANCESCAS FOLLY (Fe8) (Brewers Arms) C Popharn 4 10 3 ......... O McPhail (5) S
BETTING: 4-9 tive Vision, 6-1 Mulessell, 7-1 Francesca's Folly, 8-1 Allegiance, Mister Woodstick,
20-1 Candy Telest, 33-1 Wicked Garse, 56-1 Wilde Witch
1999: Merawang 5 # 2 T J Murphy 7-4 kev (P Nicholts) 9 ran

POHM GUIDE

Mister Woodstick: Won at Ketso (2m, good to firm) last season and sold for only 1300gras in June First run for John Spearing; will be hard to win with in selers with his penalty True Visions: Made all and left wall clear three out when winning by 19 langths at Extens (2m1t, soft) tast week. Smiler factics look likely to pay off in this lowly event Muhassili. Fair maden when last raced on Fait in 1997. Yet to show much ability over hurdes, including selers, and gives the impression he does not stay 2m hurdes, including selers, and gives the impression he does not stay 2m hurdes, faited off both outings in NH Flat races. Fall 2nd on hurdling debut at Exister (2m1f soft) last week and looks an unlikely prospect.

Altaglamos: Vibra selling hurde at Market Pasen (2m1f, good) in September. Sold out of Graham McCourt's yard for only 500gra in November and said to auffer from breathing problems.

ing problems
Wittet Witch: Talled off both outings in NH Flat races, including when last of 12 (besten over 100 lengths) to Crack Shot here (2m11, good to soft) in December

ishing 12th of 14 to Far Cry at Southwell (12t) in November Francesca's Folly: Won a seller at Yarmouth (10t) good to soft) in September for John Hills. Has shown nothing in 2 outings on the AIV that winter

VERIO(CT: TRUE VISION was flattered by her 19-length winning mergin at Exeter last week as her two nearest pursuers were both casulties at the third last. However, this looks a weeker race and her front-nursing style should be even more effective over this much sharper track.

4.40 SOMERSET HUNTER CHASE (CLASS H) 52,500 added 3m Penalty Value 52,038

BETTING: 2-1 Certain Angle, 9-2 Just Ben, Gypsy Luck, 13-2 Milhead, Kaloore, 18-1 Muntal Cabbary Rose, 25-1 Duchess Of Tubber 1996: King Torus 8 12 7 Mr J Jules (5) 1-2 fav (V Dartnall) 5 ran

FORM GUIDE

Hillihead: Ex-trish handicap chaser, Promising reappearance when 2nd to Punters Overhand at Lartrill (3m good to soft) in January, but disappointed next 2 starts Cartain Angles Consistent point-to-pointer and won 4 brees last season. Led close home when wiming ladies' open at Wadebridge (3m, good) last month and ridden by former 3-times ladies' champion Polly Curting
Just Ben: Extra-safe jumper and has never failer in 35 outlings. Genums, but unable to quicker and railised 2 out when 3rd to Apple John over C&D (soft) last time
Kaloone: Useful pointer, missed last season, but made a promising reappearance when 3rd to Vainau and Comish Harp at Great Trethew (3m, soft) last month. Sure to come on for the run.

soft) last month
Cabbery Rose: One-paced ex-Irish chases. No chance when blundered and unsealed
inder 4 out (open ditch) over CSD (soft) last time in race won by Apple King
Duchess Of Tubber: Missed last season and first race for over 2 years. Suited by plenty
of out in the ground, but pulled up both outings in points in 1997 and tough task on return
Gypsy Lucic Cuise consistent pointer, but hard to win with. May not be up to hunterchase standard and kept on at one pace when 3rd to Minely A Gin at Wadebridge (3m.
good) last time.

VERDICT: Certain Angle has the considerable advantage of Polly Curling in the sec-dle, while former hundler Mustall must be in with a chemic after his stind to Crulee A Hoop last morth. However, KALOORE, ridden by Philip Scholfield, another former cham-pon, has always looked capable of winning a hunter-chase and was having his first run since 1997 when third at Great Trethew last month.

5.10 WIDCOMBE NOVICE HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS F) £3,250 added 2m 1f Penalty Value £2,661 

- 9 declared Africans weight: 10st. True handices weight: Frame Of Mind 9st 9th, Dankste 9st 9th, 9ETTING: 5-2 Wild Hadset, 109-30 Dacott, 4-1 Letteh, 5-1 Mr Leroi, 7-1 Pablo's Jet, 8-1 Jette, 16-1 France Of Mind, 33-1 Dentiste, 40-1 My Lost Love 1998, Drégon King 6 10 12 B Ferton 7-1 (C Berwell) 13 ran

FORM GUIDE Dacolt: 2-y-o winner for Sir Michael Stoute. Found fast ground conditions ideal when

writing at Musselburgh (2m, firm) lest time and looks vulnerable on this softer going Wild Hadsen: Showed much improved form last time when winning a novice hunde at Catternole (2m, soft) on his first outing for 10 months. Here a sound chance of following Laffah: Stepped up to 21/4m at Huntingdon (good to soft) last time when 6th to Berlin

Bus. Has given the impossion he needs further than this and sharp track against him Pablo's Jet: Selling hurdle winner here (2mSt, good) in December and 2nd to Top Stopper in similar event here (3mt, good to soft) last time. Looks outstassed In Similar event here (3m, good to soft) last time. Looks outcassed Jabbs Won twice on the Flat last season. Caught the eye at Kempton (2mSt, soft) when staying on to finish 4th to Magic Combination in Jeruany, but this trip looks too short Nir Leroit Improved on last sedeon's form on first run for new yard when 4th to Misconduct on first run in handicap at Follessione (2m1t, good to soft) in February. Chance off his law unables.

My Look Lover. Placed cince (and of 5) in 4 outings on the AW less year for Mark Johnstone. wy coat cover reaso cross gard of 5 in 4 change on we we say you a mount of but fittle sign of ability in 3 novice hurdles and first run in a handleap. Frame Of Mindt in bouch when led 5th on handleap debut at Folkestone (2mit, good to soft) last month. Twice a winner on the Flat in France, but has shown little over hardles. Centrate: Locks short of stamms and has laded 3 out on last 2 outings in notice claiming hundles. First run in a handicap and will need to improve on what he has shown so fa VERDICT: This going will be completely different to the last surface that enabled De-polit to peg back Curroulus near the finish at Museleburgh lest month. He probably only just stays two miles and may not be able to give 20th to Mirk LEROK. Although beaten 22 and a half lengths when fourth on his reappearance last month he is prob-ably capable of better than he has shown so far and looks on a handy mark.

### booked to ride.

Going: Soft 1.50: 1. GALE TO! (Major O Eliwood) 13-8 tar; 2. Kibreet 15-8; 2. Desert Calm 15-1. 7 rstr. 27, 3, Tote: 5290: \$160, E160, DF: 5290, CSF: \$452, NR; Extra Stout.

Jackpot: £12,209.10.

CHEPSTOW

3.05; 1. GAROLSA (M A Fitzgerald) 4-11 fex; 2. Clara Cane 16-1; 2. Gone Bailie-tic 12-1 8 ran. 7, 6. Tote: £140; £110, £300. £150. DF: £8.21 CSF: £8.93. CSF: £290

4.15: 1. RAJATI (T Eley) 9-2; 2. Tui 100-30; 3. Omowaid 10-3 6 ran, 11-4 fav Sadler's Secret (5th) 14, 11/4. Tota: \$4.50; \$2.60; \$1.50 DF: \$880 CSF: \$16.98.

GORG: Soft 1.45: 1. MAJOR BALLABY (B Leird) 2-1: 2. Stim Prior 100-1: 3. Happy Days 33-1 6 ran. Der, nk. Toes: £310; £140, £600. DF: £6100. CSF: £5608 ESTAG USF: ESTAIN (R Supple) B-11 tay: 2.15: 1. MIKE STAN (R Supple) B-11 tay: 2. Cross The Rubbicon 20.1: 3. Adventu-rus 11-1.7 ran. 2. dist. Tote: £180; £180; £340.DF: £720.CSF: £1374, MRs: Irver Red,

SANDOWN

3.55: 1. GOSPEL SONG (N Horrocks) 11-2; 2. Exalted 13-2; 3. Executive Design n-2; 2. Exeited 13-2; 3. Executive Design 8-1.8 ran. 3-1 tov Mary's Feelings (4th) 11/4, 1/4. Take: £660; £160, £240, £250. DF: £2690. CSF: £351. Tricast: £25181. 4-30; 1. FILS the Characters. 2290. CSF: \$452. NF: Extra Stout.
2.25: 1. PROVINCE (Major O Elwood) 9-4
fav; 2. Studio Thirty 7-1; 3. Flat Top 13-2
8 ren. 11/h, 8. [C Mann. Lambourn). Tota:
\$2.90: £130. £160. £250. DF: £780. CSF:
£1810. Thoast: £7311. NF: Bungee Jumper
2.55: 1. NATIVE CHARIM (J A McCarthy)
everts fav; 2. Belled Minstre! 13-8; 3.
Clifton Beet 33-2. 4 ran. 12. 7. Tota: £200.
DF: £170. CSF: £2.62.
3.30: 1. LOROBERNIEBOUFFANT (P
Hdo) 8-1; 2. Storm Of Gold 16-1; 3. Count 5.05: 1. GROUSE HALL (J Calleghan) 9-2; 2. Lord Sandrovitch 6-4 tay; 3. Just Tom 7-2.5 ran, 2-4. Tota: 5730, 5210, 5210 DF: £410 CSF: £987, NR: Select Equiname.

4.40: 1. NATIVE PLAYER (P Hide) 9-2; 2. Sharp Command 11-2; 3. Mountain Path 9-4 lax 9 ran. Hd, 16. Tota: £6.30; £150, £130, £130. DF: £1810. CSF: £27.75. Tricast: £63.85.

Going: Soft (Heavy in places) 1.00: 1. JUST NIP (M Batchelor) 9-4 fav. 2. Cottstown Boy 11-2; 3. Dangerous Guest 6-1, 7 ran. 25, 3. Tote: £3,00; £120, £2,80 DF: £8,30 CSF: £12,18 2250 DF: 2630 CSF: £236 1.30: 1. CTTOWA (J. Tzzárd) 11-2; 2. See Enough 7-1; 3. Sait By The Stars 8-π fav. 5 ran. 17, 25. Tote: £5.70; £260, £2.00 DF: £250, £36: £3163. NF: Belmont King. 2.00: 1. BACCHANAL (M A Fitzgerak) 5-4 jf fav; 2. Davosád 5-4 jf fav; 3. Lawarink 8-1 4 ran. 23, 9. Tote; £100 DF: £140. CSF: £291, NF: Alhossam. 2.30: 1, IN THE BLOOD (R Widger) 9-4 fav; 2. Blue Charm 4-1; 3. Storm Damage 3-1.5 ran. 12, 16. Tota: £250; £140, £270. DF: £550. CSF: £728.

3.40: 1. IRBEE (J. Tizzard) 8-13 lav; 2. Native Fing 7-2; 3. Romancer 9-2 5 ran, 15. 10. Tota: \$150: \$120. \$140. OF; \$210.

Placepot: £104.60. Quadpot: £4.80. Place 6: £25.36. Place 5: £13.98.

2.45: 1. VALIGAN (W Dowling) 5-2 tay; 2. Thentos Keith 11-4; 3. Poles King 4-1 6 ran. 9, dist. Tota: 2360; £140, £230, DF: £450, CSF; £208.

SATURDAY'S RACING RESULTS 3.20; 1, BRIGHT DESTINY (R McGrath) 5-2; 2, Better Tintes Ahead 7-4 3 ran. 6-4 fav Major Bell (unseated Hider). 9, Tote: Can Dic Stan CSC state

£380 DF: £180 CSF: £595.

Cledy Boy, Conston Joker.

4.30: 1. FILS DE CRESSON (6 Powell) 5-1;

2. Bangaburuny 3-1 fav; 3. Montrave 4-1. 6 ran. 13, 4 Tota: £5.70; £2.50; £160. DF. £12.70. CSF: £20.77. Tricast: £63.32. NRs:

Place 6: £14249. Quadpot: £56.60. Place 6: £14249. Place 5: £58.48.

WOLVERHAMPTON

Going: Standard 1.40: 1. STATISTICIAN (M Fenton) 13-2:

2. Germock Veiley 9-2 fav: 3. Live Project 9-1. 12 ram. Hd, 1½. Tote: £630 £180, £300, £460. Dual Forecast. £1340. Computer Straight Forecast. £32.85. Tricast: £24800.

2.10: 1 GEVITY (Martin Dwyer) 4-1; 2. Rouge 6-4 tay; 3. Forty Forte 6-1 10 rm. 3. 5. Tota: \$350; \$160, \$100, \$200, DF: \$530 CSF: \$217.

Octor 5-1; 3. Night Fight 25-1; 13 ran. 5-2 fav Magic Randow (4th). 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, nt. Tota: 57730; £310, £230, £810, DF: £47.70, CSF: £70.71, Tricast: £(£2507.

13.30 1. LONGSERVINESOUP-FANT (P Hide) 8-1; 2. Storm Of Gold 16-1; 3. Count Campiont 5-1 11 ran. 4-1 fav Bock On The Last. 1½, 7, (J Giffort, Findon), Toker £8.40; £180. £350, £210. DF: £07-90. CSF: £11612. Tricast: £644.52. NR: Guilder.

A.OS: 1. REGENCY RAKE (A Magure)
7-1; 2. Coulthard 7-1; 3. Dr. Jazz 2-1 fav.
9-ran. Sht-hd. 11/4. (A L T Moore, Nass, Co
Klidare). Tote: £730; £180. £240, £140. DF:
25530 CSF: £5124. Triesst £2318. Trifecta:
225300. NRs: Road Racer, Sr Talbot. Time
For Action.

5.15: 1. DUSK DUEL (M A Fitzgerald) 4-5 fav; 2. Rosco 14-1; 3. King Witzard 9-1 18 ran. 314, 5. Tota: £210; £130, £2.70, £3.20. DF: £1060. CSF: £1480. NRs: River Gold,

3.15: 1. YAKAREEM (J Tate) 14-1; 2. Weet-A-Minute 11-10 (av. 3. China Castle 7-2. 7 ran. 1/s, 1 Tota: £1980; £530, £120, DF: £22.50, CSF: £27.78 3.50: 1. MUTABARII (J Quinn) 9-2: 2. Kees Albana 5-1; 3. Step On Degas 18-1 12 rm. 3-1 fav Approachable. 1/4, 1/4. Tota: £580; £380, £180, £510, DF: £2780, CSF: £2582. Necest: 5303.72

4.25: 1. CAPTAIN SCOTT (J Fortune)
15-2; 2. Welville 15-2; 3. Norsone Mr.
Niceguy 5-1 fax 13 ram. 2. rk. Toke: £730;
22-80, £230, £200. DF; £4080. CSF; £5144.
Tricast: £28160.
5.00: 1. AVONDALE GIRL (F Lynch) serra.
Lav. 2. Kosen Hands (3-1; 3. Legel Venture)
2-1 13 ram. 2/s. /s. Toke: £220; £150; £350.
£270. DF; £5520. CSF; £203.

5.30: 1. FAR CRY (G Duffield) 9-4; 2. Sud-est II-2; 3. Durgo 5-4 fax 6 ran. 14, 14, Tota: 84.50; 17:0 r; 50 23:00 DF: 8840 GSF; 3 15:25. Treast: \$203.53 Placepot: \$83.50 Quadpot: £34.50 Place 6: \$2006. Place 5: \$455. ■ Barbola proved too strong for

Borgia in the 1m 2f Group Three Prix Exbury, the first European Pattern race of the season, at Saint-Cloud on Saturday. Borgia held on to second from Jim And Tonic, with Britain's Dark Moondances two lengths away in fourth.

\*THE INDEPENDENT **RACING SERVICES** 0891 261 LIVE COMMENTARIES RESULTS STRATFORD 971 981 972 PLUMPTON 983 973 ALL COURSES RESULTS 0891 261 970

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West Indies are chasing 256,

Jacques Kallis put on a record

unbeaten second-wicket stand

of 315 as South Africa estab-

lished a lead of 274 to take into

the final day of the second Test

Gibbs finished the fourth

day on 211 with Kallis keeping

him company on 148 as the

courists advanced their first

immings total to 442 for 1 in reply

to the Kiwis' 168. This total

should he enough to allow the

South Africans to declare on

their overnight score and have

a day to bowl out the hosts for

a second time in a match they

have dominated despite the

the innings despite the strength

African captain Hansie Cropie

Although it was an admirable

time lost to the weather.

against New Zealand.



### **YEBOOK**

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Y'S RACING RESULTS

PARTY PROPERTY Buffet itter Merca. BUTKE: in MATERIAL STA Acres 60 Job Mar.

manuel fr

Cronje will be without fast Wer Allan Donald, who is sufie ing from strained stomach muscles, for the New Zealand Control of 1988

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A CONTRACT

pectea.

HERSCHELLE GIBBS and BY JEREMY GOLDMAN in Christchurch

CRICKET

was forced to retire hurt after

being hit where it really hurts

by a delivery from fast bowler

Jason Gillespie. That was the only setback for

the West Indies during the two two-hour sessions. Collins, a

Barbadian in only his second

Test, was hit on the protective

box by an off-cutter from the

fast bowler. The blow floored

Collins, and after several

BY CRAIG COZIER

in Port of Spain

West Indies 227-4

Australia 256

New Zealand 168 South Africa 442 for 1

bnan's 275 in the drawn first Test, it was an innings of fine concentration. He batted 10 and a half hours, faced 468 balls and hit 23 fours and three sixes.

Kallis' century was also his highest Test score and his fourth Test hundred. He batted for over seven hours, faced 340 balls and hit 17 fours and one six. Their partnership was the highest for the second wicket by South Africa, beating Kallis' own record of 238 with Gary Kirsten against England in Manchester last year.

batting display by Gibbs and Kallis, the duo dawdled at a run rate of 2.7 runs an over through of their team's position. South preferred to bat through the appeared that South Africa afternoon session rather than 'needed to score their runs declare as most people had ex- more rapidly.

SOUTH AFRICA - First Moings

Despite their dominance over the attack both Kallis and Gibbs appeared only able to bat at one pace when, especially after the rain interruptions, it

(Overnight: 247-1) G Kirsten c Astle b Vettori ....... muscles, for the New Zealand innings and he may have left himself insufficient time to bowl out the bosts on the good batting wicket.

Gibbs' previous top score in 12 Tests was 54. Like Daryll Cul-

minutes treatment he left the field. Collins hit two straightdriven boundaries off Gillespie in taking his overnight one to 10. He and Lara had put on 22. Adams joined Lara at the crease and the two most expe-

rienced batsmen in the side saw off the pace pair of Gillespie and Glenn McGrath, who had proven so destructive late on Saturday afternoon. The duo also had little diffi-

culty in negotiating the legspin tandem of Shane Warne and Stuart MacGill Lara was a study of concentration and determination before hunch, but he began to blossom during the afternoon session.

The 29-year-old Trinidadian stroked boundaries to all parts of the ground as he raced to three figures. The dual world record-holder had not scored a century in 27 immings before yesterday. His last century was in June 1997 against Sri Lanka in St Vincent.

On Saturday, McGrath and Gillespie had left West Indies reeling again after a four-wicket new-ball burst. McGrath seized three wickets and Gillespie took the other as West Indies slumped to 37 for 4. At that stage Australia's total, of which Steve Waugh, the captain, made exactly 100, looked a healthy one. McGrath bowled the opener

Sherwin Campbell for 12 as he aimed an ambitious drive, had the debutant Lincoln Roberts was caught off the top of his glove for nought, and removed Dave Joseph (14) when the batsman sliced a slower ball to That gave McGrath 3 for 28

from his opening spell while Gillespie had the other opener, Suruj Ragoonath, lbw for a duck pushing forward, leaving Lara to guide his team to a competitive total, something be did

With aplomb.
Second day: Australia won toss
AUSTRALIA - First landings
256 [S R Waugh 100, M E Wough 67; C
A Waish 4-55.] WEST INDIES - First beings

Umphres: SR Bucknor (WI) and P Willey (Eng).

achieved the feat in last week's gives me the confidence to

The left-arm fast bowler, who

"It was quite unbelievable," said Wasim, who took his tally to 378 Test wickets and joined the queue with West Indian Courtney Walsh (404) to break Indian Kapil Dev's record of 434.

the day.

ish will get there and I hope I can. Two hat-tricks in as many matches is something I never dreamt of, but it reach the summit. My immedihad Avishka Gunawardena ate task however is to win the

The hat-trick overshadowed stumps off the next. After an masterly batting by liaz and In-

Pakistan's Wasim Akram (left) celebrates his Test hat-trick record yesterday Reuters

### **Wasim's hat-trick heroics**

WASIM AKRAM yesterday be-Sri Lanka 231 & 9 for 3 came the first bowler to claim Pakistan 594 hat-tricks in two consecutive Tests as Pakistan took a firm other end, Wasim had Mahela grip on the Asian Test final on Jayawardena caught with his the third day in Dhaka. first ball of the next over. The umpires then called off play for

The Pakistan captain's feat came after double centuries by Ijaz Ahmed and Inzamam-ul Haq had left Sri Lanka on the brink of defeat. Ijaz made 211 and Inzamam an unbeaten 200

as Pakistan piled up 594. on as Sm La to avoid an innings defeat, slipped to 9 for 3 in 13 balls.

Lahore Test against Sri Lanka, caught at slip off his fifth ball Asian final. and shattered Chaminda Vaas' over from Shoaib Akhtar at the zamam, who hit career-best

scores on the slow pitch at the Bangabandhu National stadium. Third day: Sel Lanka won the toss
SBI LANKA = First hinings 231 (P A De
Siva 72: Arshad Khan 5-38).
PRINSTAN = First hinings
(Particular 299-2)

wardene c Wasti b Wasim\_

5-3, section Orticar 1-0-4-0.
The bate: PA De Silva, MS Atapatou, 1H P Tillek-eratine, R 5 Kalunitharana, G P Wichormasinghe, U O U Chandana, 5 K L De Silva, Umphress O Cowie(NZ) and D Shepherd (Eng).

### Lucky breaks for Jimenez

SPAIN'S DEFENDING champion, Miguel Angel Jimenez, rode his luck vesterday to retain his Turespaña Masters title by four strokes. The 35-year-old, who boned his game on the Parador course here, twice pitched in from bunkers and had his ball stopped from going into the water by a spectator's legs in securing his fifth European Tour title.

Jimenez looked to be cruising to victory after extending his five-shot overnight lead to seven by the sixth. But his outof-bounds drive on the seventh allowed the field to close in on him and then Jimenez needed some luck to help him to the final round, five-under-par 67 which took him to 24-under-par 264, four better than young Briton Steve Webster.

His victory carried him to second on the Ryder Cup table as Jimenez achieved the first successful defence of a title for two years on the European Tour.

In Coral Springs, Florida, PGA Tour rookie Eric Booker defied the gusty conditions to hold on to a two-stroke lead

By PHIL CASEY

in Malaga

after three rounds of the Honda

After consecutive rounds in the 60s. Booker carded an evenpar 72 for a 54-hole total of 203 to lead fellow American Tommy Tolles, who fired a 69, and Australian Bradley Hughes (70). Reigning PGA Player of the

Year Mark O'Meara, a Florida resident, was tied on 207 with Harrison Frazar, whose 66 was one of the best rounds of the Scotland's Colin Mont-

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gomerie carded a 72 to lie 11 shots off the pace while Sandy Lyle was five strokes further adrift after a 76.

Scotland's Catrona Matthew fired a seven-underpar 65 to leave her just three shots behind American pacesetter Dale Eggeling after three rounds of the LPGA Welch's Circle K Championship in Tucson, Arizona.

Scores, Digest, page 9

### First title Cannock secured by Giants of goals

BASKETBALL

BY RICHARD TAYLOR

MANCHESTER GIANTS duly bagged their first trophy in the franchise's history on Saturday night, but were hardly out of the dressing-room before focusing on the next title in their sights. Sheffield Sharks and the

Budweiser League crown are next in line, following Giants' predictable 90-69 win over depleted Derby Storm in the Uniball League Trophy final at the NEC, the biggest winning margin in the event's history. Giants hold a four-point lead

over the Sharks at the top of the league and face them at Sheffield Arena on Friday night in the first of two encounters over the last three weeks of the regular season. Victory on Friday and a win over London Towers on Saturday night could clinch the title. Derby faced Giants without

ine injured Nick Donovan and suspended Rico Alderson and Yorick Williams, but stayed with them until the interval. Ronnie Baker, of Giants and

England, set a three-point record for the final by hitting five. Derby's Joel Burns scored 20 and Nate Reinking 16. Manchester's Tony Dorsey led all the scorers with 28.

# lead flood

HOCKEY

BY BILL COLWILL

THERE WERE goals galore in the spring sunshine yesterday. Cannock, defending Premier champions and current leaders. topped the bill with a 13-3 win against East Grinstead, Bob Crutchley scoring four to take his season's total to 32. Along with Brooklands,

Grinstead look doomed to the First Division next season, with Hounslow, seven points adrift of Bournville following their 3-1 defeat at Teddington yesterday, playing off with the First Division champions for the final Premier League place.

The Australian Ashley Grummitt was another with a four-goal haul, in Bournville's 6-2 win against Guildford, which just about ensures the Midland side Premier hockey next season. The England striker, Mark Pearn, also scored four times in Reading's 7-3 win away to Old Loughtonians.

Perhaps the most important four goals came from Surbiton's South African, Greg Nicol, in a 5-3 win at Stourport. Since Doncaster only managed a 2-2 draw with Harleston Magpies, this returned the Surrey side to the top of the First Division, a point ahead of the Yorkshire side.

### STRATFORD

1.50 CALDAMUS (nap) 2.20 Jocks Cross 2.50 Rusk 3.20 Monicasman (nb) 3.50 The Brewmaster 4:20 King Of Clare 4.50 Liniyan

■ Left-hand course with 200yd nun-in.
■ Course is SW of Stratford-on-Avon on A438. Stratford station Ym. ADMISSION: Club End: Tattersells E10; Course £4. Accomanied under 16s free. CAR PARK: 52, remainder free. EADING TRAINERS: M Plos 29-115 (25.2%), IJ Nicholson 18-58 (\$21%), P Hobbs 13-65 (19.7%), K Balley 12-61 (19.7%). ILLEADRIG JOCKEYS: A P McCoy 34-147 (23.7%), R Johnson 23-118 (195%). A Magnire 17-05 (258%), N Williamson 17-91 (197%). III FAYOURITES: 191-481 (375%). BLINKERED FIRST TWIS: Edinand (320). LONG DISTANCE TRAVELLERS: Josemeric & Our Man Donnis

1.50 START FESTIVAL AT STRATFORD NOV-ICE HURDLE (D) 25,000 2m 6f 110yds ## Section | Sec

FORM VERDICT 8 would be worth noting any market move for Eventues on his first run for David Winds, but the horse's high form is uninspiring to say the least and his worth sticking with CALDARUS, whose recent Sadgefield win was gained on good ground, but who had earlier run creditably in the mud at Fontwell.

2.20 RACECOURSE VIDEO NOVICE CHASE (CLASS D) £6,000 added 2m 4f 1 IS-211 JOCKS CROSS (21) (D) Mass V Williams 8 Tt 2 ..... N Williamson 2 26-UPP JANNS DISPLAY (23) Mits A E Johnson 8 Tt 2 ..... A R Kansonigh, 3 PRSPP- CHETREY ORICHID (281) J. R Hughes 2 Tt 2 ...... Jahr P Hundy 3 declared — BETTING: 1-14 Jocks Gross, 8-1 Cherry Orchid, 33-1 Annas Display

FORM VERDICT A gift for JOCKS CROSS, who will have to do more at home than will be required against these two no-hopers.

2.50 FOXHUNTER AT SNITTERFIELD SELL-ING HURDLE (G) £4,000 2m 3f 

FORM VERDICT

SHARBADARID has not encountered ground as soft as this be-fore, but that is not to say he won't handle it and it may pay to side with him. He was gifted his race at Ludiou text firm when Roak, who sail hald every chance at the time, tell two out, but that hum-ble may have left its mark and his is passed over this time.

3.20 TOTE CHASE (CLASS C) £10,000 7 PASPI/ MR PINBALL (MAP) (D) Mis 8 Contay 2 E3\_

BETTING: 15-8 Roundwood, 9-4 Edward, 5-2 Monicaeman, 8-1 Indian

FORM VERDICT An interesting little handless. ROUNDWOOD has complete a fine nun of form in compatitive herdicage this winter and can make a a good start to the week for the kish, but both Edmond and Mon-leasage have potential if getting it right.

3.50 RACING CHANNEL THIRD DEGREE H'CAP HURDLE (C) £6,500 2m 110yds

- S declared -BETTING: 11-10 Marigitano, 2-1 The Brewssetst, 11-4 Wesley's Lad FORM VERDICT

With the ground Staty to be against The Brewsmatter, this may re-solve into a duel between Wastey's Lad and MARKGLIAMO. The latter should have the race set up for him and his turn of foot could prove deceive. An easy 2m is ideal for him.

4.20 CREDIT CALL NOVICE HUNTER CHASE (CLASS H) £3,000 added 3m 

PASPI/ MR PRESALL (674F) (D) Mas 8 Contay 2 F2 3 \_\_\_\_\_ Mr P Countay (7) 8
33/55 REDWAN (23TP) Mas 8 Stoche 2 F2 3 \_\_\_\_\_ Mr 8 Montas (7)
14PF SNOWSHALL SHAKER (10) (C) AP Kingti 10 26 Mr H Handay (7)
15 Z1-11 TOMBOLLA (16) (D) Mrs C Baley 8 F2 6 ... \_\_\_\_ Mr M F00cot
12 PITEP TWILLIGHT TOM (16P) (D) L Williams 10 F2 6 ... Mr A Price (7)
14 USUS REGAL PURSUIT (20) Mrs C Baley 8 T2 6 ... Mr M F00cot
14 USUS REGAL PURSUIT (20) Mrs C PROJUCT 11 F2 Mr M F00cot
15 6 (LP4P THOPMYSILL (22P) F Mantiness 9 T1 F2 ... Mr A Batoman (7)
18 declared 18 TTING: 5-4 Tombolo; 11-4 Tomborough, 4-1 King (1) C Clare, 5-1 Regal

— 16 consumer — BETTING: 5-4 Tombole, 11-4 Tomosppagh, 4-1 King Of Clare, 9-1 Regal Pursuit, 14-1 Tellight Tom, 25-1 Mr Pinhall, 33-1 others FORM VERDICT A lot of these have no prospects of witness under Rules and the highly promising pointer TOMBOLA has been found a soft first opportunity in hunter-chases. Polissions witner Tomosppage is the

4.50 RACING CHANNEL MAIDEN OPEN NH FLAT RACE (H) £3,000 2m 110yds JOSAMERIC (63) O'Duggen 5 11 8 R Johanno OUR MAN DERRIS 9 Duggen 5 11 8 N Williamson ROYAL YANGEE 8 Nicholson 5 11 6 D J Casey 

BETTING: 11-18 Listyan, 7-2 forn Cobbies, 9-2 \$ And O P. Barregistown 12-1 Royal Yaskus, 33-1 others FORM VERDICT

Easily the pick of those with experience is LINIYAN, who ran well in the Thacaster mud on his debut, it will take a depart performence by one of the newcoment to lower his colours in these similarly tasking conditions, with Royall Yealeys the most interesting of the tro.

4.30 'CLAPPER' CHALLENGE CUP HUNTER CHASE (H) £1,500 3m 1f 110yds 2-FUT MY BEST MAN (16P) Mis THE 2 20 ...... Mis THE (7) 

-5 declared -SETTING: 5-13 My Best Man, 3-1 Westerlands Queen, 11-2 Pinocolo 12-1 Springterm Rath, 50-1 Olsko Debh

SF1-FU SPRINGFARM RATH (5) G Brown 8 12 0.......Mr T GRIPHY (2) 244-44 WESTERLANDS QUEEN (5P) H Marriers 10 11 8.........

**FORM VERDICT** 

WESTERLANDS QUEEN'S two hunder-chase runs lest season sucgest she is more than capable of taking this. Admittedly, her two fure in point-to-points that season have been moderate efforts, but are is still just preferred to My Best Main, who was completing for the first time in three outgots this term when whichig his recent ports

5.00 RAY GOLDSTEIN HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS F) £3,000 added 2m 4f

BETTING: 9-4 Plaza Of Oak, 5-2 Foundain Bid, 17-4 August Twelth, 13-2

te fairly exposed types here, but BLAZE OF OAK was Impres at Taunton and clearly retains plenty of ability. Help going to be hard

### BOOK OF THE WEEK

Mick Fitzgerald A Jump-Jockey's Life by Mick Fitzgerald with Carl Evans Mainstream, £15.99.

IT IS typical of Mick Fitzgerald

that his account of a jump jockey's life is exhaustive. Fitzgerald is most familiar to the casual follower of racing as the rider who produced that quote when asked by Des Lynam how it felt to win the Grand National But, even before he said "sex is an anticlimax after that", he was wellknown as probably the most eloquent and talkative jockey around.

It was said you could ask Fitzgerald a question, press record on your dictaphone. then wander off for lunch, and when you came back, he would still be talking, having turned the tape over half-way through. ysis, or even death. And there are times when it feels as if this was the approach used by his co-author, the journalist Carl Evans. Few details of Fitzgerald's life or may sound tedious, hut turns the assortment of lame anecdotes which tend to form the standard racing autobiogra-

At various points, Fitzgerald for all this, although the obviadmits to driving across fields ous conclusion is that, whatevwhile seriously under the in- er it is, it is not nearly enough. fluence, using laxatives to con-

FITZGERALD CH MESSACKLES 101

tion. "If other jockeys are prepared to knuckle down," writes, "so must he, or the whole thing becomes a joke". He also lists some of the tricks jockeys use to fool the clerk of the scales, which may not endear him to his fellow riders, and tells some unexpected stories. And all the while there is the backdrop of injury, paral-

right reservations about Tony

McCoy's controversial whip ac-

Perhaps the most revealing passages are those which deal with Fitzgerald's unending battle with the scales, such as when he had to maintain his abdaily routine are too minor to solute minimum weight for almake it into his book. Which most a week when a big race was twice postponed. Simply out far more interesting than reading about it is enough to make you feel peckish.

2 Football Memories, Brian Glanville (Virgin, hardback, £16.99). sbier As Hero, 3 Thesive Grand: The Gas

4 Red and Rew - A Post-War History of Manchester United & Liverpool, iven Ponting (Andre Deutsch. hardback, £14.99).

5 Tear Geg and Ticket Boots, Eddy Brim-son (Headline, paperback, £6.99). 6 Racesform Horses in Training 1999, (Raceform, paperback, £13.95).

trol his weight, and voices forth-

The one area which Fitzgerald is slightly coy about is precisely how much he gets paid **GREG WOOD** 

7 Conquests and Crises – the 1998 Ruar de France, Velo News (Velo Press, pa-perback, £16.95). 1 BBC Radio 5 Live Sports Yearbook 8 Playing for Keeps - Michael Jordan And The World He Made, David Hal-

berstam (Random House USA, hardback, £21.50).

10 Cold Dawn - My Mational Velvet Dido Harding (Mainstream, hardback

+---

Dido Harding (Mainstream, National, E15.99). Compiled by Sportspages: 94-96 Char-ing Cross Road, London (0171 240 9604) and St Ann's Square, Manchester (0161 832 8530) and Www.sportspages.co.uk

### **PLUMPTON** HYPERION

\*\* 2.00 (Johnston's Art 2.30 Kingdom Of Shades 3.00 Whirlawhile 3.30 Summer Flower 4.00 No Matter 4.30 Westerlands Queen 5.00 Blaze Of Oak

Left-hand, undutating course with sharp bends. Tricky down-

GOING: Soft.

In Course and Republishing course with sharp bends. Tricky down-hill fence in back straight. Uptil run-in of 200yds.

Ill Course as of A276 S of Highwards Heeth. Plumpton station adjoins course. ADMISSHON: Members £14; Tatiensats £10 (OAPs 529; Saver ring £6 (OAPs 62, CARP PARIEK Members 55; rest free. It LEADING TRAINERS: 34 Pipes \$1-88 (A555). J. J. Janhans 14-78 TRAMERS: M. Plos 31-88 (456%), J Jenkins 14-78 (19%), 7 McGoren; 2-80 (20%), R Rome 2-88 (138%), ELEADRIG JOCKEYS: A P McCoy 43-20 (368%), M A FREQUE aid 17-76 (22-7%), D.O'Sulthum 14-83 (189%), J.R. Kavanagh B-66 (19.7%). E FAVOURITES: 197-486 (40.8%).

1891 261 + BLINKERED FIRST TRIE: None. 2.00 WIVELSFIELD 'NATIONAL HUNT' NOVICE HURDLE (E) £3,000 2m 4f

INDVICE MUMBULE (E) ES, and a linear of the second of the — 8 declared — BETTRIC: 7-4 Hulborn Hill, 2-1 Jahredon's Art, 3-1 Guillale Guy, 7-1 Pesse-dong Yolann, 25-1 i Aler't Michelsivin, 23-1 others

HOLBORN HELL is the one to best on his earlier form and is worth Another chemics, despite a couple of releasely deeppointing efforts. Jobseptom's Art deepth look any great shakes so far and needs to have more confidence in his jumping, but Guillible Guy remains

2.30 PLUMPTON 25,000 BONUS NOVICE CHASE (CLASS E) £4,000 2m 5f F(S-P1 DEEP REFRAM (185) R Philips 8 11 10 A Thornton
Q822 KNGDON QFS-MDES (47) May V Wilgras 9 11 10 R Desectory
4F5-45 JOKER JACK (24) R Deen 14 11 3 May N Febilly (7)
4P6-2 KRELY MAC (27) (C) 8 O'Brien 8 11 8 W Marston
4 declared 4 declared -

BETTING: 8-13 Kingdoot Of Stacles, 15-8 Kelly Mac, 8-1 Deep Refrain, FORM VERDICT Kingdom Of Shades is some 20b clear on official ratings and it sure to start favouris. However, he has had some really hard races on soft ground this season, botted above when basten here in January and struggles to win despite having loads of ability. Consequently it could be worth changing KELLY MAC, who comes from

3.00 WEATHERBYS IT SERVICES NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E) £3,000 2m 1f OO HERRINGSEY (25) R Bucker 5 11 2 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ S Powell
P MOON RIVER (11) Mas K Marks 6 11 2 \_\_\_\_\_\_ V Statisty
3422 WHITH AWAILE (262) (SF) Mas V Williams 5 11 2 \_\_\_\_ S Kelly (5)
0 CASTLE HLL (26) O CHart 4 10 8 \_\_\_\_\_ M Batchelor (5)
0 PH GOOD ORDER (7) G L Moore 4 10 8 \_\_\_\_\_ P Hide

BETTHES: 1-10 Whitewiste, 14-1 Herringsty, Castle Hill, 20-1 to Good FORM VERDICT

These novice hurdles are often very easy pickings and WHIRLAWHILE should win this on all known form.

3.30 UCKFIELD HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS F) \$3,000 added 2m 1f 

9 - 7 riseland - 5 Surmorn, Doctor Brav-lous, 8-1 Surmorn Flower, 12-1 Made Franchise, 196-1 Rus Bayerd FORM VERDICT Hard to argue with last weekly run from Tissue Of Lies, but this may well be less of a test and if the race turns tectual, the speed-ler SURIANON is likely to benefit. Illuminate shouldn't be ruled out.

253P4B SUMMER FLOWER (S) (D) Miss Z Daucon 9 108 . D O'Sulfinan (7)

4.00 BOLNEY HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS F) 24,000 added 2m 5f 

Cile Gilf St. 12th, No Manner Set 10th. BETTING: 6-4 Regal Acres, 7-4 Scave, 5-1 Full Of Houses, 7-1 No Man-ter, 18-1 Scobin Girl FORM VERDICT A Indicy race despite only the runners as the three exures specialists all have question merits against them. Settro looks out of form, Riggal Aura breats blood vessels and Scobie Garl heart receptured lest seasons form so the novice NO MATTER is given a tentative vote. The selection books capable of improving a lot on what he has shown to clase and had impressed with his jumping until paying the price for he sole arror at Laicester last time.

Bow Bells, 7-1 Fighting Times · FORM VERDICT

### **SPORT**

# Paul pair weave silky magic

bold and imaginative step this winter of uniting the Paul By Dave HADFIELD brothers, the hope was that there would be afternoons like this, when their combined rugby hrilliance would weave unforgettable magic.

What could not have been predicted was that it would come so early in the season, against a side that had already shown some impressive form.

Although Tevita Vaikona tries, it was Mr and Mrs Paul's half-back sons, Henry and Rohhie, who dominated yesterday's spectacular Silk Cut Challenge Cup quarter-final.

This was as far removed as it is possible to be from the plodding, predictable Bulls of last season. with their whole philosophy now geared to getting the best out of the free wheeling talents they have available. Unlike many one-sided con-

tests, this never became boring. because it remained fascinating to see what they would get up to next. "During that first-half, I was jumping up and down like 10.000 people oo the terraces at some of the tries we scored,"

Scott Naylor.

said the Bradford coach, Matthew Elliott, and it takes a his fourth. lot to make him gush like that. Although Henry's goalkicking was an optional extra in the context of this match, he got well-earned rest, Warrington recorded dashing long range tries from Toa Kohe-Love and Bradford moving with an early peoalty. Their oew Australian second-rower, David Boyle, then dummied and barged his

way over from acting half, an area in which Warrington found insoluble problems. spread the credit around. Henry's inside ball to Vai-"Everyone wants to talk kona produced the second try for Mike Forshaw and before

Warringtoo had time to catch their hreath he then released When James Lowes linked with Robble Paul, who took the

return pass from Michael Withers to complete an 80-yard try, Bradford were 22 points ahead in less then even time and the outcome was beyond doubt.

Warrington

It sends out a warning to other clubs, including their semifinal opponents Leeds, that Bradford remained so eager to carry on the destruction.

Vaikona went over for the first time before the break. claimed four of Bradford's 10 rounding off a move involving both Pauls and Naylor. He was there again, feeding off Henry, five minutes into the secondhalf, before the try created by Robbie and Danny Peacock for Withers that was perhaps the most stunning of the lot.

Warringtoo had beeo shellshocked from an early stage, so it was an unexpected interlude wheo they worked a neat blind-side move for Scott Wilson to score. Bradford's response was immediate; after it had taken a mass of Warrington tacklers to stop the rampaging Vaikona, Stuart Spruce strolled over from dummy-half. Nick Zisti's long break set up

followed by Lowes getting the ball away perfectly to him for Elliott expressed some mild disappointment that, after the departure of Henry Paul for a

Vaikona for his hat-trick, closely

Mark Forster. It was not possible to be seriously critical of such a display, although Elliott wanted to

about the Pauls, and I like to talk about them as well, hut I thought the whole lot of them played so well today," he said. Warrington would vouch for



Warrington's Ian Knott is brought down to earth by Bradford's Mike Forshaw (left) and David Boyle

### Big two are drawn to face each other

LEEDS WERE made to struggle by a determined Widnes side yesterday but they won through comfortably enough in the end, 46-10, and were then giveo the draw they did not want against Bradford.

Their Challenge Cup semifinal will take place oo Sunday, 28 March at Huddersfield's McAlpine Stadium, a venue where, in 1996 and 1997, Bradford knocked out Leeds at the same stage of the competition.

Matthew Elliott, the Brad-ford coach, accepted that the meeting would have made a dream final in the last rugby league match to be played at Wembley before the stadium is

"You would probably have to say Leeds are the toughest side left in the draw," he said "Castleford and London were among the teams not really expected to get to Wembley but one of them will be there now."

SEMI-FINAL DRAW

Castleford v London (Headingley, Sat 27 March) Bradford v Leeds AcAlpine Stadium, Sun 28 March)

It took Leeds some time to overcome their Northern Ford Premiership opponents - who took the lead with a penalty and it was 10-all 16 minutes into the second half - but they ran in five tries, including two for Andy Hay to complete his hat-trick,

Auto Quest Stadium.

Castleford, West Yorkshire's third representative in the last four, will take on the London Broncos in the first semi-final at Headingley a day earlier.

Castleford reached their first semi-final for five years at the expense of Salford on Saturday while Loodon reached their second successive semifinal after a comfortable 54-6 win over Whitehaven.

club-record five tries for the Broncos after the Premiership side took the lead but that was as good as it got for the visitors.

Two tries from Salford oldboy Darren Rogers helped Castleford to a 30-10 win in a game that was turned when the Salford captain David Hulme, was twice sent to the sin-bin for interference at the play-the-ball and the Tigers made their numerical advantage pay.

### Serena breaks into big league

BY DERRICK WHYTE in Indian Wells, California

SERENA WILLIAMS overcame a sore knee and Steffi Grat in the final of the Evert Cup at the weekend. Williams, the unseeded 17-year-old, beat the fifthseeded former world No 1 6-3, 3-6, 7-5 in one hour 45 minutes.

"f'm so excited," said Williams, who bounced up and down after winning a 12-ball rally to claim her second career title. "I now know that I can win the hig ones. f don't know howmany matches I've won in a row but it's seven to win a Slam. I'm prepared to do that."

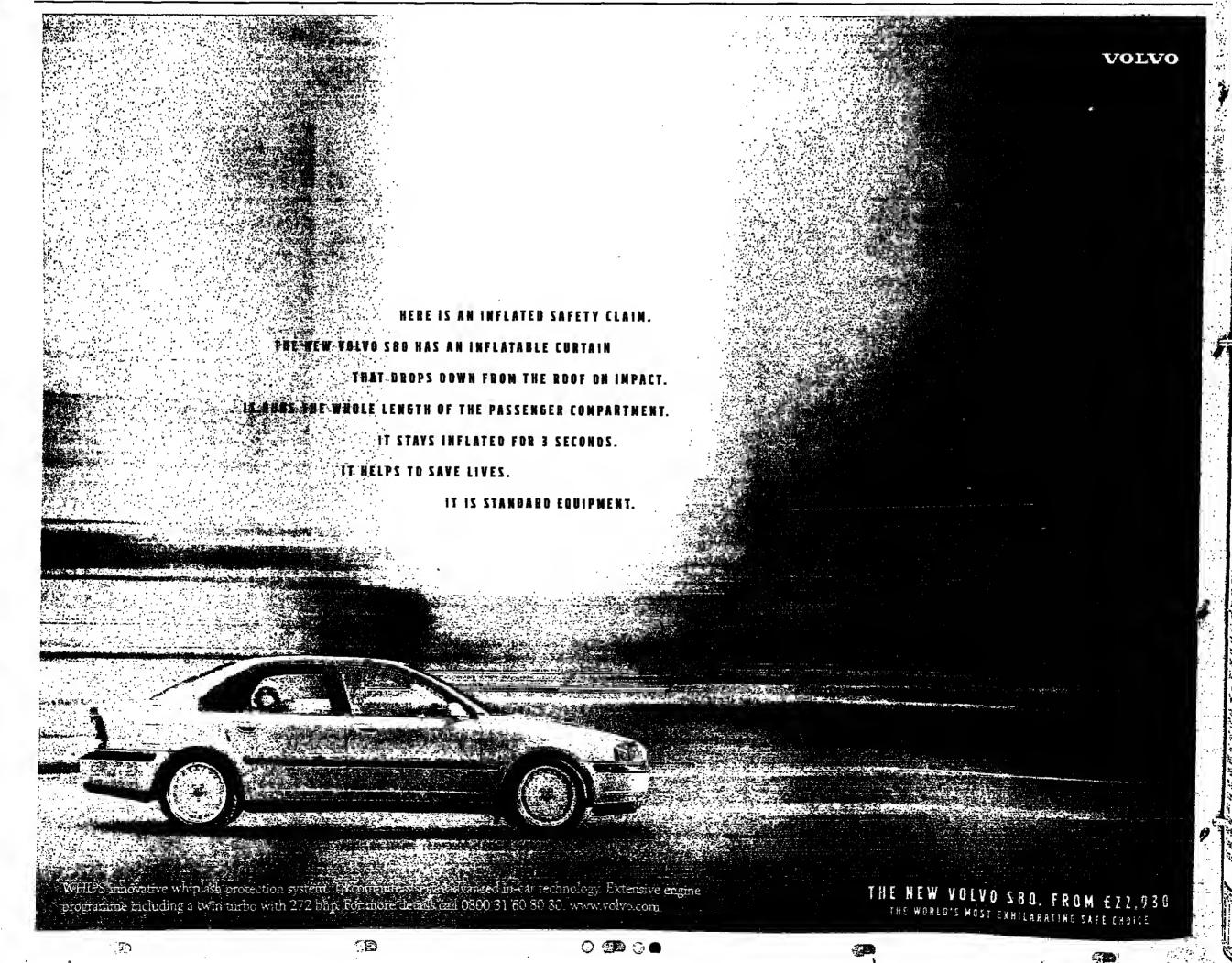
Graf was disappointed at her lack of risk-taking in a contest that saw her commit 26 unforced errors to 38 for Williams, while only hitting 11 winners.

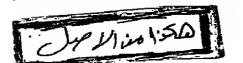
"She was going for her shots more than I did." Graf said. That was the difference... with taking risks, you put pressure on your opponent. Just putting balls in play is not enough."

The Spaniard Carlos Mova. knocked Pete Sampras off the top of the world rankings when ... he beat the Brazilian Gustavo Kuerten 6-3, 1-6, 6-1 in Saturday's semi-finals of the Newsweek Champions Cup in Indian Wells.

"I hope I never wake up from this dream," Moya said after cutting a large cake shaped in a number one to mark his rise. In the final, the 22-year-old Moya was to play Mark Philippoussis last night, who beat-American Chris Woodruff 6-1, ... 6-2 in his semi-final.

Moya was expecting to hear from the Spanish king, Juan Carlos. "He's going to be happy," said Mova, "He's the king of Spain, but, at least this week, I'm the king of the world."

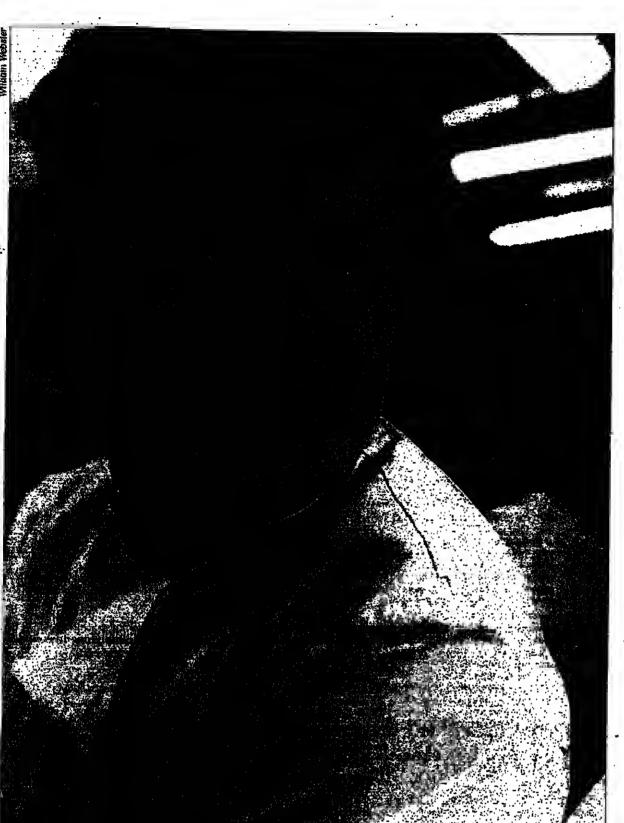




15 March 1999

# MONDAY REVIE

COMMENT • FEATURES • ARTS • LISTINGS •



# Gerdon

He's a bit of a show-off, is chef Gordon Ramsay. He rubbishes a waiter. rips off the truffle man, and takes the pip out of Bramley apples. And all for my benefit. What an act. Or is it?

t's Som at Gordon Ramsay's eponymous, marble-tiled, discreetly chi-chi Chelsea restaurant. Lunch is just coming to an end. Fine china coffee cups tinkle. The daintiest of little marzipanny things are being popped into expensively lipsticked mouths. Jean-Claude, the mettre d', takes my coat. Jean-Claude is quite handsome, in a French, middle-of-theroed, crooner sort of way. Gordon later says: "All the women who come in want to shag him, but he's al-ways too frightened, AREN'T YOU JEAN-CLAUDE!?" Gordon comes out from the kitchen, In his chef's whites, Gordon is not dainty. Gordon is seriously BIG. A seriously big head, like a bulked-out Patrick

Serena

breaks

into big

league

BY DURBUG WHITE

Swayze's, with strange, ventriloquist dummy lines running down his chin. ("A woman once asked me if I'd been though a windscreen. I said: 'Have you seen how lopsided your left tit is?'") Seriously big hands. Seriously big forearms. Even a seriously big you-know-what, he insists. "An ex-girifriend described it as like a baby's arm holding an orange," he boasts happily. Gordon, I say, that is rather more information than I need, actually. "It's true, though!" Well, I continue, at least it wasn't described as a baby's arm holding a Bramley. That would be too ch. "Don't TALK to me about those Bramley FOPLE" he shouts. "They were here yesterday, outside the restaurant, protesting! They had ma-mure on their wellies. They left shit outside MY restaurant. They had placards saying 'Bramleys, the best cookers'. How STUPID can you get? I had to pull down the blinds. I had to call the police. TWICE!"

Gorden - the 32-year-old former footballer and the only Scottish chef to have won two Michelin stars - can correctly be seen on telly, in Boiling Point, a Channel 4 fly-on the wall job that goes out Thursday nights. The series is quite compelling, in much the same way massive tarentulas in zoos are compelling - horrible, terrifying, yet you find you can't look away. Gordon is seen losing his temper quite excessively. Gordon is seen being not especially encouraging to his staff ("Are your brains in your fucking aree, fatso?"). Gordon is seen taking the Bramley Apple Campaign for something of a ride. Paid 23,500 to provide a half-hour cookery demonstration in front of foodies at The Bluebird restau-

for Granny Smiths, saying he couldn't remember the last time he'd used a Bramley, and calling the campaign's chairman a "plonker".

Gordon, what have Bramleys ever done to you?

"They've just got no finesse. They're a rough-cut apple. It's not something you could put in your daughter's packed lunch, because she'd be going to the toilet for two weeks afterwards." OK, but for the rather fine fee of what works out to be £116.66 per minute, you could have pretended to like them. surely? "No. I couldn't lie." Feeling as you do, why didn't you just turn the job down? "First, my restaurant had just opened, and I was a bit hard-up for cash. Secondly, there is this guy called John Torode, who's one of those celebrity plastic chefs on GMTV, and he took over The Bluebird, but it got too hot for him, so he left. I knew if I went to do a demonstration in his kitchen - while he was still there, which he was then - he'd he really pissed off, so that's why I did it." With Gordon, the ego is allowed to conquer pretty much everything else. I suppose this might even be quite spectacular, in its way. We move to a vacated table in the restaurant win-

dow. "So I can see if THOSE BLOODY BRAMLEY PEOPLE are coming back!" He's not going to refund their money, no. But he might give it to charity. "They don't need it. They all arrived in LAND ROVERS!" Jean-Claude brings us coffee, and ex-quisite little chocolates, and these mini, passion-fruit filled Cornetto things. Gordon is a superb cook, by all accounts. He is, he says, currently working on "a new ravioli, and I want to do crayfish lobster with a foie gras sauce". Certainly, he is now the most talked about chefin the country. The TV series. The Bramley business. Throwing out AA Gill and Joan Collins, A writ from his previous establishment, Aubergine, for walking out. He seems to be in the

papers almost daily.

He wonders if I think he is getting to be too much of a "celebrity". He doesn't want to be "a celebrity chef", he says, because "I'm a real cook". Although, this said, the Radio 4 Today programme had upset him earlier by not turning up at the right time to interview him. He is thinking of doing the BBC series Trouble at the Top. He has recently done OK! with his wife, Tana, and their 10-month-old daughter, Megan. He wishes, be says, he'd lost his virginity to Tana: "I lost it when I was I4, to a friend of my rant in London; he was seen swapping the Bramleys sister's, who was 18. I'm not the only man to have



**DEBORAH ROSS** INTERVIEW

done service to bacon, but it is why I loathe bacon sandwiches and haven't eaten one since. She was a pig. Tana's 100,000 times prettier. I wish I'd lost my cherry to Tana. But you're so desperate to lose it, it isn't until afterwards you think 'Fuck me, she was ugly'." He's showing off, yes, but not in an especially clever way.

Is it all a performance? A strange kind of theatre? A strange kind of theatre of cruelty, even? Why does he behave as he does? Why is he always losing his temper so? "Tm not. I'M NOT! I've got a very controlled temper. When I get really upset, it's bang, straight to the point, solve the problem, then on to the next thing. People ask me why I get so upse if artichokes are overcooked. Well, I don't pay staff £400 a week to overcook artichokes. I can't bear it. I can't witness it. Everything that comes out of my kitchen has to be perfect." Look, Gordon, we're not talking paediatric brain surgery here. We're talking nice nosh for well-heeled folk. Don't you ever stand back, and see it for what it is? "Not enough, I suppose. But my goal is to win three Michelin stars. which will mean I am one of the best chefs. Once I've achieved and maintained what I've set out to do, then I'll take a good, hard, proper look at the overall picture." The other diners have gone now. A sort of kitchen boy wanders passed. He is very slightly plump. "You," shouts Gordon. "Only salad for you today, OK? You're out here tonight and I don't want you to make the portions looks small!"

What hurts you, Gordon? "Well, about a month ago, I found out that two of my commis and a senior were stealing from me. OK, it was only bread

and brioche, but they stole. I was hurt by that. I went round to their flat, there and then, to inspect it, and also found bits of silver and crockery. I thought about sacking them, but then decided that wasn't fair. So, instead, I made them work four Saturdays on the trot, cleaning the marble tiles with nailbrushes." How did they react, when you turned up at their door? "They panicked. But that's because one of the waiters had all these wank mags. Yann, come over here." Yann, the young French waiter who was fa-mously scolded and humiliated in the first episode of Boiling Point for wearing a blue plaster on his finger - "you're smart, you're immaculate, and a fucking blue plaster!" - comes over.

"Yann, how many dirty magazines did I find in "None, really, Chef," says Yann, whose blush

rapidly shoots up his neck while I, too, cringe with

"How many? Twenty?" "Zere were a few, Chefi"

"And Yann?"

"You've got a bogey hanging out your nose."
"Yes, Chef. Sank you, Chef."

Gordon, I ask, is there anything you wouldn't say to anybody? Can you ever go too far? "Well," he replies, "when I do bollock staff, I never refer to their

There is, I know, a kind of consensual cruelty going on here. When he left Aubergine, many of the staff left with him. Perhaps this is just what goes on in the world's top kitchens. Gordon himself trained in the great kitchens of France - under Guy Savoy and then Joel Robouchon - where "I was called arsehole 10 times a day. But you stay there, and stick it out, because it's good for you." He once, he says, mucked up a langoustine ravioli for Robouchon, who then threw the lot, still steaming hot, over Ramsay's head. This is how you learn, he insists. "Yann wili never wear a blue plaster again," he adds. I taste one of his little passion fruity Cornetto thingies. I guess it should explode in many pings of pure pleasure in my mouth. But, somehow, it doesn't.

Famously, Gordon Ramsay's first dream was to become a footballer. As a child growing up first in Scotland, then in England, this was all he thought about. He did get to make it to Glasgow Rangers but after only two first-team appearances his con-

tract was not renewed. He cried on the day he was told, he says, but then decided if he couldn't be the greatest footballer, he would be the greatest chef. (Prior to being talent-spotted by Rangers, he'd been at a catering college). I don't doubt Gordon Ramsay is driven by his desire to not fail again. But, still, reasons are not always sufficient excuses.

It's 5pm now, and we've moved into the kitchen to do the photographs. At this point, a dapper little Italian truffle salesman cold-calls. He is tightly chutching two paper bags, one containing white truffles (£170 a kilo) and the other black ones (£140). Gordon has a good fumble amongst the white ones. He passes them around his staff, to be smelt, or so I imagine. He has a good smell himself, of course.

Pwoar! These smell terrible. And look at the mud them. I'm not paying for mud, Spick. Typical fucking Spick, trying to sell me rubbish. Here, you have a smell." He passes one over to me. I don't know a great deal about truffles, frankly. They're not something I've encountered much down the Little Chef. so I just feebly whimper: "They smell kind of truf-

fley, I guess." "They're mouldy," insists Gordon. "And who ever heard of white truffles at this time of year? We'll be

laughed at. We don't buy shit, Spick." A rather shocked "Spick" - who has been wearing a rictus of a smile throughout - eventually slips out the back door, taking his paper bags with him. Gordon then empties his pockets. His kitchen staff then empty their pockets. White truffles spill out

"Have you just nicked those?" I gasp. We pass them around, Spick gets confused... he's been robbed and doesn't know it!"

"But that's terrible," I cry. "It's pumpkin soup with summer white truffles on the menu tomorrow, boys!," he cries. Gordon, would you call yourself a nice man?

"Yes. I bloody would!" What if the salesman complains?

"I'll give him a nice dinner."

He apparently says to the photographer, later. "Only joking, I'll make it up to Spick..." But I don't know. Stealing, after all, is such a hurtful thing.

Is Gordon Ramsay barking? Perhaps. But, then again, maybe he just isn't clever enough to know when not to be stupid. Maybe this is the biggest thing about Gordon Ramsay. And it's quite spectacular in its way, too, I suppose.

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eaders & comment

Features Architecture

Listings

Satellite TV Today's TV

### Sainsbury hits back

Sir: In January Friends of the Earth claimed that the Gatsby Charitable Foundation funds the development of GM food for J Sainsbury plc.

Wrong. Gatsby does not and has never funded development of GM Food for Sainsbury's.

On 22 January Friends of the Earth claimed I will be launching a video to convince shoppers that genetically modified food will do them no harm.

Wrong. A proposal was put forward in a report to Maff in 1998. I did not commission the report, I have never seen it. I have never discussed its contents and I understand Maff are not going to act on its recommendations.

On 25 January Friends of the Earth claimed that I was leading a plan to use supermarket loyalty cards to investigate the impacts of eating GM food.

Wrong. I have not been involved in any discussions along these lines.

On 19 February Friends of the Earth claimed that I used a visit to China and Korea to promote GM crops links between Britain. Korea and China and "visited various biotech bodies in China including the Institute of Plant Physiology in Shanghai".

Wrong again. The visit was undertaken to promote hi-lateral science links and covered a range of issues. I did not discuss UK GM food policy nor did I visit the Shanghai institute

In his letter to you (11 March) Charles Secrett, director of Friends of the Earth, claims I took part in a discussion on GM food policy when I chaired a public meeting on the consultation on the biosciences.

Wrong. The minutes make it quite clear that no discussions of GM food policy took place.

Most recently I have been accused of making a loan to Diatecb after I became a Minister and Diatech had been put into the blind trust.

Wrong. It is a matter of record that I had agreed and was contractually hound to make the loan and that I had paid the money hefore I hecame a Minister. The recording in Companies House of a charge over assets owned by Diatech was done after I had become a Minister but this was an action taken by the trustee of the hlind trust. Again, Friends of the Earth did not wait to check the facts before calling for my resignation.

The simple fact is that I have not taken any decision where I could have a conflict of interest. I have not broken the Ministerial code in any way, and I have not failed to register any interest I should have done.

On a separate point. Fran Abrams reveals ("Lord Sainshury will head team promoting hiotechnology firms", 12 March) that I am leading a task force in the DTI looking at hiotechnology clusters. This was a published commitment in the Competitiveness White Paper and was announced in the House in December. LORD SAINSBURY

Minister for Science Department of Trade and

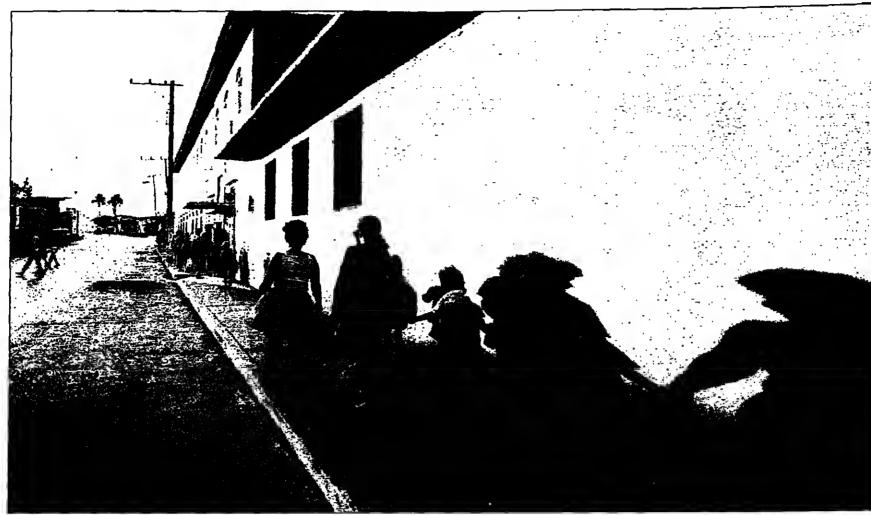
Sir: The governments of this world must unite to put an end to the American-led onslaught of genetically modified organisms into our biosphere.

When the BSE crisis broke, the big guns in the UK beef industry, agribiz and government lined up to bully the British public. EU regulators and consumers worldwide. Fortunately they lost. and the subsequent ban on British beef forced the British beef industry to get its house in order.

With GMOs we have an unregulated biotechnology industry backed by the most powerful country in the world bullying the rest of the world to consume food which could be unsafe to the environment as well as the consumer. Bullying and greed should not be tolerated. The

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Post letters to Letters to the Editor, The Independent, I Canada Square, Loodon EI4 5DL and include a daytime telephone number, fax to 0171 293 2056 or e-mail to letters@independent.co.uk. E-mail correspondents are asked to give a postal address. Letters may be edited for length and clarity



Cuba No 1: Children going to school at dawn in Trinidad de la Cuba

Michael MacSweeney

US might threaten a trade war over GMOs, but I doubt they'd send in the battleships over a

product that no one wants. If our government has its bands tied by some dubious trade agreements and can't (or won't) ban GMOs, then at least we should have proper labelling of our food. That way we can have the freedom to vote with our wallets on an issue that our government is too cowardly and feeble to tackle. RORY CARGILL London SW11

Sir: Sales of GM foods in America are booming. Hardly surprising, when there is no labelling, no specific legislation to control them, and the hiotech industry is

effectively running the country. Sales of organic foods in Britain are booming ("Consumers rushing for organic food", 8 March). Hardly surprising, since we are beginning to realise just how poor our food quality has become.

With a little help from their friends (in the Government). farmers in Britain could become part of the organic trade

success story. Why is our Government backing a foreign horse? JOANNA CLARKE

Sir: Brian Marshall (letter, 12 March) perpetrates exactly the kind of whimsical thinking about foodstuffs that serves the interests of no-one but the pro-GM lobby. Horses, and other stock, are reluctant to eat fresh ragwort when other feed is available because the plant is extremely bitter tasting. Stock will happily eat wilted ragwort which, although less hitter, remains a serious toxic hazard. While cattle are reluctant to eat huttercups, the plant is not toxic to them. KEITH BRAITHWAITE

### Oskar ceremony

London SE13

Sir. The joy of the money men at the departure of Oskar Lafontaine should disturb everyone else. It parallels the rapture with which World Bank emissaries greeted the resignation of the head of

Uganda's Central Bank because he opposed privatisation.

Oskar Lafontaine, for all his reported eccentricities, stood for some form of democratic control of the money system. Is Gore Vidal's view of America true for Europe, that the money men have bought politics, the media, and even the churches? It looks like it. KEVIN DONNELLY Christian Council for Monetary Justice Manchester

Sir: Some 290 million of the world's most prosperous peoples unite behind a single currency, the euro. It is triumphantly launched and steadily depreciates. Then one man resigns from the German government and the euro's

comparative value surges upwards. Can we now bury the ridiculous myth of the stable euro, please? MICHAEL J KNIGHT Langley, Berkshire

### **Budget blow**

Sir: The production cost of diesel fuel is less than 70 per cent than of the cheapest grade of petrol. In most countries other than Britain this differential is carried through to the tax-added price at the pump. The extra tax on diesel which

Sir: Deborah Orr's accusation

that President Clinton is "a

Hilary', 12 March) is

evidence for such an

rapist" ("Don't stand by him,

outrageous. There has been no

accusation, and irrespective of

affairs (alleged in some cases),

his private love life and other

your rapist charge would not

Sir: Jonathan Ree writes in the

science ever end?", 13 March)

not a cheeky outsider but a

by great corporations and

powerful mandarin, cosseted

courted by rich universities".

that "today's typical scientist is

stand up in a court of law.

Saturday Essay ("Will the

sectarian war of arts and

Professor AJVLITOS

Frilford Heath,

Oxfordshire

has been in position for years in this country, bringing its price into line with that of petrol, was already an unjustifiable dishonesty. The predictable retort that this is to adjust for the better economy of diesel power is not acceptable; the substantially higher purchase price of a diesel vehicle is part of the equation of outlay versus

running costs. Capricious and unpredictable changes to the relative price structure make any attempt to make rational calculations a waste

Country dwellers with large distances to cover and no practical public transport tend to opt for diesel power. They are also, in so far as voting power is concerned, a

minority group. For the Chancellor to take advantage of this by imposing this savagely disproportional increase

in diesel fuel is despicable. On the other side of the Channel the rural communities would be demonstrating with tractors and combine harvesters on the motorways and horseboxes in the city centres.
PETER KELLETT Kinlochewe, Highland

Sir: I was disappointed to see that the cheaper tax regime was to only

IN BRIEF

researcher in ocean circulation

and climate, I regard myself as

a typical scientist. Could Mr

Ree inform me where I can go

to be cosseted and courted? Or

don't climate scientists count?

Perhaps I'm just a cheeky

Southampton Oceanography

Sir: Chicks have been made to

grow rudimentary clawed legs

instead of wings ("Scientists

March). Scientists in America

took a gene found in legs and

transferred it to the wings of

chicken embryos, causing

make four-legged hens". 12

Dr DAVID CROMWELL

As a modestly-paid

apply to cars with engines of less than 1100cc.

Being of a somewhat large build (6ft 2in, 17 stone) I am unable to take advantage of this tax reduction as small-engined cars tend to come with small driver compartments, too small for me to he able to fit into and drive safely, if at all. (I have sat in cars whereby the ergonomic design of the driver space meant that I could not reach or use the brake pedal.)

I wonder if this is the first instance of people being forced to pay more tax simply because of their size? Dr PETER PARSONS Reading, Berkshire

### Foxy business

Sir. Paul Freeman (letter, 12 March) believes that fox-hunting is a sports and requests that Tony Banks either support it, like he

does rugby or boxing, or resign. Surely the Corinthian ideals of sport require that consent is given by the participants. If the English rugby pack marched across a field and set upon a rambler we would not call it sport. Similarly, if a heavyweight boxing champion launched an effective one-two combination at a pensioner at a bus stop we would not call it sport.

feathers to vanish and the beginnings of clawed fingers to appear.

May I send my congratulations for their double discovery? Not only have they found the gene which produces four-legged poultry, but at the same time they have identified the one which has made me completely sick. HEPAYNE Southwell, Nottinghamshire

Sir: Poor Christopher Luke Getter, 16 March), people allowed to walk past his front door! We have the same problem, with a right of way passing within feet of our house. However, here we call it a pavement. Mrs LESLEY CURWEN

Equally, when 60 dogs, 30 mounted riders and scores of followers terrorise a wild mammal we do not call it sport. At least most of us do not. BEN STEWART League Against Cruel Sports

Sir. Paul Freeman has missed the point completely comparing fox hunting to boxing and rugby by saying Tony Banks should describe them as "unnecessary and barbarous".

Perhaps they are, and knowing a few rugby players, they could easily be described using both adjectives. But the point of these sports is that all the participants want to participate. There are two consenting pugilists, 30 willing rugby players.

I don't know about the dynamics of a hunt but is the fox ever consulted beforehand? I think not. DAVE COLVILL Southsea, Hampshire

Sir. Paul Freeman takes the Minister for Sport to task for not supporting foxbunting. I feel assured that Mr Banks accepts the generally held view that what distinguishes a sport from any other activity is that it is held in public, its participants are consenting, enjoying it and have each a reasonable chance of winning Foxhunting disqualifies itself on at least three of these criteria. DAN WILLIAMS Southend-on-Sea, Essex

Sir. Paul Roberts questions my assertion that foxhunting is a sport (letter, 13 March). I base this simply on its classification in this country as a field sport along with shooting and fishing. These activities are classified differently

in the USA, hence his response. But if we really want to start splitting hairs, most of what are referred to as "sports" should really be called "games", so maybe my original point about Tony Banks is incorrect, and rather than resign as Minister for Sport his position should be renamed Minister for Games PAUL FREEMAN Wotton-under-Edge, Gloucestershire.

### Race in schools

Sir: A worrying feature of reports on differential school performance among ethnic groups ("Young, gifted, black and a living reproach to our racist schools", tl March) is that no one seems able to pursue a line of inquiry far enough to get an answer.

There are too many questions in this area to which answers are not seriously sought

Why do black boys, said to be the least submissive to teachers' authority, slavishly follow their teachers' expectations?

If black boys are "boisterous" why does that make any difference to school performance if boisterousness and studiousness can co-exist?

If they cannot co-exist, what is the cause of the boisterousness. and should it be curbed?

If black boys' achievement would be improved by teachers making allowances for male Caribbean exuberance, should teachers apply different behavioural standards to black and Asian pupils in the same class? Are Asian parents happy for

their sons to be in the same classes as boisterous African Caribbean boys?

If not, are they guilty of racial stereotyping?

Why do Indian and Chinese children, whose homes may be more culturally, linguistically and religiously different from the dominant European school culture than the homes of white and African Caribbean children, nevertheless do so well in English schools?

Is the relatively poor performance of white, lower-class boys due to low expectations and an alien curriculum?

If it is, why is race assumed to be an additionally serious factor in the low achievement of black boys? RICHARD WILKINS Association of Christian Teachers St Albans. Hertfordshire

Sir: I was disappointed, but not surprised, to see that while there were whole paragraphs devoted to the problems that "Georgia" was causing the school ("A better class of behaviour", 11 March) there was not one word about the problems that the school might be causing "Georgia". Many four-year-olds are not

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socially or emotionally mature enough to cope with the strictures of most reception classes. The rules imposed there can

seem pointless and frustrating to a young child.

If parents want their child to hegin "education" at age four, a good nursery or playgroup where there are specialist staff and a curriculum and environment suited to a young child's needs is vital.

Society will pay for the damage it is doing to these children, but the price won't be anywhere near as high as that paid by the children themselves - my heart goes out to them. CHRISTINE HEYWOOD

South Glamorgan

### Tricks of the trade

Sir: I was delighted that John Walsh ("I'm sorry, I've been given the clues", 11 March) concluded that the nudging in the right direction he was given before appearing on my Radio 4 Quote ... Unquote programme succeeded in making the show a better

But, curiously, not one of the quotations he cites was discussed on the shows he was on. He also mistakes the sex of the

producer on that occasion who supposedly provided him with the pre-knowledge be was concerned about And how clever of him to be able

to recall, as direct quotations, the views "she" apparently expressed. Well, there you are you see, just as we hroadcasters have our little tricks, so too do journalists. NIGEL REES London W11

# Revealed: how Elgar grabbed Yehudi by the googlies

IN THE wake of the death of Yehudi Menuhin, I have received many letters of tribute to him and think it only right to print a selection today.

From Mr George "Gubby" Trotter OBE Sir, in all the richly deserved tributes to Yehudi Menuhin, I have seen none that mentioned his very

real love of cricket. You would think that a man of his background - American, Jewish would have nothing in common with the world of willow and greensward, but he fell in love with this ancient game as easily as he fell in love with the equally English sounds of Elgar, Many classical musicians have a weakness for the great game, and when the young Yehudi was on tour with the orchestras of the Thirties, he was

inducted early into the mysteries

if they are still there!

From Mrs Angela Quigley

of this ancient English game.

"In those pre-motorway days," he once told me, "we travelled slowly by coach and had to make many halts for what the Americans call comfort stops and what British musicians call a quick slash. Well; if you stop in the middle of the country it takes not much more than a minute for the average orchestra to pick two scratch sides and start playing. Once we left three viola players in a field in Leicestershire. We didn't notice for an hour and had to choose whether to go back and collect them or get to the concert on time. As they were only viola players we went on. I often wonder

Sir, as a cricket-loving flautist I can

vouch for every word of the above. Menuhin threw himself into the intricacies of cricket as keenly as he did into the byways of oriental philosophy - indeed, he once said to me that the two were closer than was commonly realised.

"In some ways cricket is a paradigm for the unknowable," he said to me once, as we fielded side by side in the slips. "To a foreigner like me, there is something awesome about a game that can last either five days or a couple of hours, that can finish before the allotted time span or only be halfway through when time is up. It is also the only game which stops when it rains. Time, cricket and weather. A mighty triangle of conflicting interests. Extraordinary..."

At least, I think that is what he

said. As a devotee of yoga, he often

KINGTON 'Time, cricket and weather. A mighty triangle of conflicting

MILES

adopted an upside down position in the field, which made it hard to hear what he said. But it often served to six pebbles from pocket to pocket

interests. Extraordinary'

put off an incoming batsman! And and still had one pebble left.

I have seen him bring off great slip "I think you will find catches using only his feet! From Arnold Palmer (no relation)

Sir music is a mysterious business. I remember once umpiring a match in which Yehudi Menuhin was playing. He was a remarkable spin bowler. He never span the ball at all, which made the batsmen so nervous that they often played for spin and missed it. Occasionally he would spin the ball by accident, which confused them further. They can't spot my right 'un,

Arnold," he would grin. Once, when he was bowling I failed to call the end of the over and he said, somewhat sharply, that we had already had six balls. I said it was impossible. I always counted

"I think you will find you haven't", he said tartly. "If an international violinist can't count six beats in a bar or six balls in an over without even thinking about it ... "

Hater found that one of my pebbles had split in half in my pocket and what I thought was a pebble was only half a pebble. He was absolutely right!

From Sir Norman Grudgeon Sir, I would like to vouch for the generous sentiments expressed in previous letters nn the subject of Yehudi Menuhin and cricket. I often sat on the same committees as he did, and there was never a time when his philosophical, sometimes even saintly, interventions failed to baffle us.

I once asked him what he by that

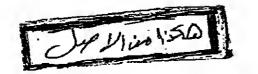
thought about when he was playing Elgar's Violin Concerto, and he said he usually thought about cricket. Sometimes he would replay whole matches in his mind as he sawed away. Once, he said, he had played the Elgar at Carnegie Hall, and in the second movement had come to such an exciting bit of fast bowling that he had shouted out "How's that!" in a very quiet bit. The audience, being American, had no idea what it meant, and the

conductor whispered: "It's fine". "What do you think about when you play cricket?" I said.

Elgar, normally," he said. "And what are you thinking about now?"

"How to get away from you without hurting your feelings."

I often wonder what he meant



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### Hague says he's left Major behind – but where is he going?

TRASHING THE previous leader is the game any party leader must play. Margaret Thatcher did it to Edward Heath. John Major did it to Lady Thatcher. Now William Hague is doing it to Mr Major. The former prime minister was decent about it on the televised sofa yesterday, but Mr Major does not like it. Too bad - it is the occupational hazard of ex-leaders. However, the question that must be asked is: to what purpose is Mr Hague distancing himself from his predecessor?

Mr Hague's rather unspecific apology yesterday for his party's failure to deliver its past promises only further underscored his lack of a distinctive new direction. When he attacked the Labour Government last week for putting up taxes, he did not say how he would cut them. This is an especially tricky question for a party which recently lost office by betraying its promise on tax. How helpful of Michael Portillo, then, who as minister for the control of public spending advocated the "ultra-low tax economy", now to advise his colleagues who remain in the House of Commons to associate themselves with the demands for higher pay of the nurses and teachers. But does Mr Hague tell him to jump in a lake? He does not, and so we remain puzzled about where he is going.

When Tony Blair ditched his predecessor's policies, at least it was clear where he was headed - straight for the centre ground, which he has straddled, Colossus-like,

It is quite extraordinary that the Conservatives, who dominated British politics this century, should find themselves so marginalised at the end of it. So marginalised, in fact, that it no longer seems outlandish to wonder if they might be replaced as the main party of Opposition by the Liberal Democrats - although that would require Charles Kennedy to rubbish large parts of Paddy Ashdown's legacy if he succeeds him this summer.

At least the Lib Dems have a consistent story to tell on tax cuts - they should not happen until the improvements in public services have come through. If they could ally an honest line on "tax and spend" with a thoroughgoing libertarianism they could offer the most convincing opposition to Labour's strong authoritarian streak.

That is an unlikely outcome of the present realignment of British politics. Much more likely is a mirror-image of the history of the 18 years of Tory government, with Mr Hague in the position of Michael Foot and Neil Kinnock hobbled by his party's past. Mr Hague will be too weak to present himself as a convincing alternative to New Labour, and yet too strong to prevent a third party emerging to take on the fight. There is a way out of Mr Hague's misery: come out in favour of a fairer voting system and endorse Roy Jenkins's proposals for electoral reform.



### Let's avoid the next chapter in the Balkans

RATHER THAN cry over spilt blood in the Balkans, the urgent imperative is to learn the lessons of Croatia, Bosnia and Kosovo to avoid the next horrendous failure of Western policy. The Kosovo talks resume today against the grim backdrop of bombs tearing apart women and children in the tiny Serbian province which is nine-tenths ethnic Albanian. But this could have been predicted, and indeed was predicted, seven years ago.

In 1992, Lord Carrington, who preceded Lord Owen as the European Community's mediator in the disintegrating Yugoslavia, dismissed the pleas of the moderate Albanian Kosovar leader, Ibrahim Rugova. By a quirk of open government, this poignant scene was filmed for a fly-onthe-wall documentary on the work of the Foreign Office.

Since then, the initiative on the Kosovar side has passed to the most extreme and least tolerant group, the Kosovo Liberation Army. The KLA seemed intransigent at Rambouillet, although soon afterwards its do-or-die teader was overthrown and his young successors appeared more in favour of the compromise deal.

It took the West three years to work out that mere threats would not work against the Serbs in Bosnia. Yet, a year ago, Tony Blair agreed in the House of Commons that "the international community has learnt the tesson of appeasement in Bosnia and that we will not stand idly by while he [Serbian leader Slobodan Milosevic] ignites another ethnic war in Europe". In April, Robin Cook said: "We are determined that Belgrade should stop behaving as it is in Kosovo," In July, he said: "Mr Milosevic should back down and he should back down now. This is his last warning." Yesterday, he said: "If Belgrade opposes peace, then Belgrade may have to take the consequences." At some point, the threats will have to end and the action begin.

But more peopte will be killed in Kosovo, before the situation reaches some form of resolution. Meanwhile, Nato troops may well have to be deployed to try to keep the peace on the ground and eventually Kosovo may become, in effect, an independent state.

The West has tried to avoid that outcome because it will have the effect of moving the Balkan tragedy im to the next act, entitled "Macedonia". Kosovo's neighbouring statelet - once also part of Yugoslavia - contains a large ethnic Albanian minority and it is claimed by Greece.

In the early Nineties, Western teaders did not listen to the Serb minority in Croatia, to the Bosnian Muslims or to the Albanians of Kosovo, with dire consequences. Now the danger is that they are not listening to the Macedonians. Whatever the outcome of the Kosovo talks, the human rights of all ethnic groups in the region must be guaranteed: that should be the starting point for negotiations, not the cause of hand-wringing after the KLA has effectively won its war of independence.

## Labour's last taboo shouldn't keep keep a good man from being mayor

SUDDENLY THE race for the London mayoralty is about 100 per cent more interesting and less dismal than it was 36 hours ago. The announcement yesterday by Trevor Phillips, the black TV journalist, presenter, writer and independent producer, that he is running for the job of being Britain's first directly elected city boss, has at last turned the contest into something about more than which Cabinet minister can be dragooned into stopping

Party nomination. For a start Mr Phillips not only wants the job - in start contrast to most of the bigger names that have been touted - but he has also - inequally stark contrast to Mr Livingstone - believed in and campaigned for a directly elected London mayor for over a decade. But much more important, it would be a pitiful response to the Lawrence report if there were no black voice at or near the top of the London regime, which will be charged with helping to revamp the Metropolitan Police and to which the force

Ken Livingstone getting the Labour

Yet there have been, by all accounts, precious few credible black candidates putting their names forward as Labour members of the Greater Loncon Assembly, which will provide 12 of 23 members of the new police authority It's hard to think of a greater damper on the expectations of reform raised by the Macpherson report than an all-white Labour administration in London. Mr Phillips looks on the task of helping to carry out those reforms with some relish. He also be-

example of this betrayal.

GORDON BROWN bestrides the

Mail on Sunday

THE NEW Labour Government being too complex, too fiddly-

rarely loses an opportunity to interventionist and, having too

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The Chancellor's scrapping of redistributed income, targeted

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on side.

The Observer

The middle classes were kept

will be accountable.

community to take a hand in shaping the future of the Met rather than watching from the sidelines. This is slightly more relevant than the fact that Mr Phillips admires Tony Blair - not yet, one presumes, an actual disqualification inside the Labour Party - or that Peter Mandelson was

ago when they both worked at London Weekend Television. If, of course you want Mr Livingstone, then Mr Phillips is not for you, at least as mayor. But his presence as a declared candidate will ensure that some of Mr Living 'my's more exotic claims, such as that a Livingstone ad-

ministration is perfectly capable of op-

the best man at his wedding 15 years

erating in cosy harmony with Tony Blair, will get a little more scrutiny. As David Aaronovitch pointed out in this pages in February, this proposition sits a little uneasily with Mr Livingstone's desire for a heavily increased corporation tax or the kind of familiar Eighties-flavoured left wing support he has been attracting at his public meetings. Or his view, expressed in this newspaper last year, that Gordon Brown "is not on top of macro-economic policy" and that Mr

Blair "urgently" needed to move him

from the Treasury. What Mr Phillips has to overcome, however, when he appears before the Labour Party selection panel, is the fact that, in contravention of one of the last taboos left intact by New Labour, he has chosen to send his two daughters to North London Collegiate, which was a state school until the direct grant system was abolished and lieves that it is time for the black is now a private school. Oddly, the



### **DONALD MACINTYRE**

The issue of private schools is the only respect in which the Party is more politically correct than in the Sixties

issue of politicians sending their children to private schools is one of the few respects, perhaps the only respect, in which the modern Labour Party is more restrictive and politically correct than its Sixties equivalent. Harold Wilson, the most left-wing

of Labour's last three prime ministers, was a University College School parent and thought nothing of offering Roy Jenkins the job of Education Secretary when he, too, had children at private schools. But that is neither here nor there. The question is whether this should disqualify Mr Phillips from a big Labour job in the

Why did Mr Phillips make the choice in the first place? At the time the family was in the catchment area of White Hart Lane Comprehensive where he and his sister had both been turn out to be the best candidate for shouldn't be among them.

year's league tables was just 14 percent. In the fact the school has improved; in 1995, the year his older daughter would have gone there, the proportion was a mere 4 per cent. Additionally conscious of evidence that children from Afre-Caribbean backgrounds frequently did least well in inner-city schools, he simply was not, as he put it to me last year, prepared to tell his children that he was sending them to a school, "where I know you are going to fail".

He could have bussed his children to a grant-maintained school across the borough border, as many others in the Labour Party have done. Instead he took the view that once you had rejected the local comprehensive. what you did next was irrelevant. This. of course, is precisely why a signifi-cant number of black parents send their children back to the West Indies to be educated; why Mr Phillips's brother Mike teaches his own child at home; and why his neighbour and friend, the MP Bernie Grant, was among the few brave enough to speak up for Harriet Harman when she decided to send her son to a suburban grammar school before the general election; and why, finally, many of the well off white metropolitan middle class parents who now tell each other at dinner parties what a good mayor Ken Livingstone would be would never dream of sending their children

to a tocal state school. Of course, it's an open question

pupils and where the number of chil-dren with five GCSE passes in last stage. Maybe he will wind up as deputy this time around. And of course Mo Mowlam, the most popular politician in Britain apart from Tony Blair, would wipe the floor with the other contenders if she wanted the job, which she seems not to. Nick Raynsford, the skilful Minister for London, would also be a distinctly

serious contender. It isn't true that Mr Phillips has "never run anything" since he was head of current affairs at LWT for six years; he now has his own highly successful independent production Musiliess. When is true is that he isn't a professional politician. Whether that is a handicap or an advantage is a moot point. But the fact he was not prepared to sacrifice his children's education to Labour orthodoxy will surely count for rather than against

him with the wider electorate. As it happens, the mayor won't be in charge of education in London. But he will have a lot of clout in pressing the government, and the boroughs, to improve it even faster. Answering the problems of education in London means confronting them and not pretending they don't exist. As Mr Phillips put it yesterday, "the most important thing about London schools is not where my children go, but why it is that so many children are failing". Mr Phillips, in short, is a serious candidate; and at the very least he will make the contest a lot more lively. Perhaps there are reasons why he won't be London's first elected mayor, but whether Trevor Phillips is going to wanting the best for his children

### OUOTE OF THE DAY

"I was robbed." Lennox Lewis. British boxer, on his drown fight with Evander Holyfield

### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

Party loyalty lowers the greatest of men to the petty level of the masses." La Bruyère, French essayist

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WON NIOL

**MONITOR** ALL THE NEWS OF THE WORLD Gordon Brown's Budget statement

cally neutral package, wrapped cleverly in some headline-

spin-doctors must hate him. British domestic policy agenda. LAST WEEK, we urged the cleverly in some headline-His budget can be criticised for Chancellor to remain prudent catching measures. Once Sunday Business

ernment is so far ahead in the lack of honesty. polls, and in the public mind born tax-cutters. In doing so, they distracted from what was, in many respects, a clever Budget (David Smith) Sunday Times

The Sunday newspapers evaluate

and allow the economy time to again, he was able to take with deliver. In the broadest sense, one hand, give back with the he did just that, delivering a fis-other, and be praised for doing so. How the Tories' hapless THE STRAIGHT answer to the NATURALLY ALL Chancellors tax question is that they are try to put the best possible gloss going up significantly, but not on their measures, but Mr by as much as they would have Brown has gone further. He has done before Tuesday. The Gov- soured the atmosphere with his

Gordon Brown is getting when it comes to economic the reputation of someone who competence, ministers did not cannot be trusted, who jabs his need to sell themselves as refinger at the camera, and then says: "I did not have tax increases with that Budget!" when - in fact - he most certainly did. Sunday Telegraph

### **PANDORA**

IT'S LONDON Restaurant Week so sit up straight, tie on that hib, and open wide for today's scoops du jour. Who knew, for instance, that formidable food critic AA Gill harbours an alter ego as a frustrated painter? In a previous incarnation, itinerant Slade Art School graduate Adrian passed the idle hours at a market stall in Chelsea, flogging his canvases to an apparently less-than-appreciative public. We can only speculate on what weekend daubings from the hand that rocks the ladle might feature now: Still Life of nn Aga with Robert Kilroy-Silk's feet protruding? Portrait of Gordon Ramsay Beaten to n Finely Puréed Pulp? Readers with an original Gill in the attic are invited to share their cherished artworks with a wider audience.

BEST BIT of BBC2's Las Vegas Night over the weekend was the KKLZ soundbite: "We've upped our standards. Now up

LUNCH IS for wimps but the Prime Minister is one nutritionally correct dude. Whenever he rolls up his sleeves at Downing Street, our Number One Guy orders a daily delivery from Pret A Manger. Enquiring minds want to know; is he a club sandwich kinda guy? Or coronation chicken? By contrast Janet's Bar, the South Kensington watering hole, has devised a Hillary Clinton cocktail with ingredients surely more appropriate for the bubbly Cherie - it's a mixture of champagne and Red Bull.

THE SUITS at Estée Lauder are apparently upset that Elizabeth Hurley's (pictured) recent spread in the American magazine Details made her "look like a cheap hooker". So it's safe to surmise that it set Hugh Grant's pulse racing, then.

LOCK STOCK and Two Smoking Bagels' has started a feeding frenzy among Brit producers gagging to option any manuscript with gangland credentials. The latest is Simon Brooks, who has snapped up the rights to The Guv nor, the bestselling autobiog of bareknuckle champ Lenny McLean. The book. according to Dillon's in London's Oxford Street, is the store's most frequently shop-

lifted title. So much so that management has now moved copies off the sales floor and behind cash desks. As hapless Wapping ad reps are doubtless sick of hearing your readers are our shop-lifters.

IF NIPPER Reed wins tomorrow's Guinness Arkle Chase at Cheltenbam, some say it'll he positively criminal. The animal, which has been successful in nine of its 21 outings, was named (but not spelt) for Detective Inspector Leonard "Nipper" Read, the man who arrested the Kray twins. But if Nipper Reed does get his nose in front at the line on Tuesday, owner Graham Piper, himself a former policeman, is unlikely to be on hand for the presentation. Crawley Magistrates have just remanded him in custody following the seizure of a large quantity of cocaine in Ostend.

AN INSIGHT into passport applicant and avid reader of this newspaper Mohamed al-Fayed. A Lebanese-born BBC radio producer recently found herself in the Harrods food halls. The Arabic woman nearby was having difficulty making herself understood by the anglophone - and attitudinal - assistant at the fish counter. The producer berated the assistant for his shabby treatment of the woman, an underling sent by a Saudi prince to collect an esoteric fish dish. "Ever since Fayed bought the place," the producer told the woman in Arabic, "this shop

> dogs." "I'm afraid you're right Madam," a male voice interrupted, also in Arabic. Its owner, Chairman Mo, promptly scooted behind the counter and served the woman himself If only Jack the Biscuit's boys and girls in Whitehall were as biddable ANOTHER

has gone to the

INSTITUTION with a surprising capacity for selfdeprecation is The Economist. This week it defines an economist as 'someone who can't see something working in practice without asking whether it would work in theory".

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# Women on the verge of breakdown

HOW DID you celebrate Mother's Day? Bouquets of flowers and boxes of chocolates were winging their way across the country yesterday, a Grosvenor Street beauty salon was offering a rose facial and hair treatment at the knock-down mothers' day price of £59, and the Body Shop had a truly heartwarming advertisement for the perfect "gift of fragrance" featuring a bruiser of a man and a cute grandmotherly figure.

That's all nice and fine: we love our mothers, don't we, so why not show it with a little flurry of tasteful consumerism? Even the Government was basking in a warm glow after generously handing out a £3 rise in child benefit, so that mothers all over Britain could feel not just loved hut supported. "This is a budget for women," Gordon Brown said last week.

So why are some mothers so angry? One dogged band of women weren't basking in that glow, but ormising a "Celebration and Protest for Mothers" at the Crossroads Women's Centre in north London, where hard-done-by mothers from Sara Keays to the mother of a victim of the Hillsborough disaster



### **NATASHA** WALTER

The poorest mothers in Britain are right to feel that they have been betraved

could get together to voice their grievances. It was a million miles from hand-tied bouquets of roses and fragrance. "This protest is a response to the way the Government attacks mothers," said Kim Sparrow, a single mother who spoke at the event. "They believe that children's lives mean nothing, that the work we do is worthless."

And frankly, she has a point. For

some reason, Gordon Brown's statement that this is a budget for women got through on the nod, even from left-wing commentators. Yes, many women will benefit from his reforms, especially from the £3 rise in child benefit, and the children's tax credit, which could leave parents in low-paid work as much as £25 a week better off. But the very poorest parents are not in work, they are living on benefit, and so the tax credit will mean nothing to them.

Although they will get that increase in child benefit, it will make only the most marginal difference to their incomes, which have been dropping in real terms for the last 15 years. What's more, for lone parents - 70 per cent of whom don't work – the increase in child benefit won't even cover what they lost in April with the scrapping of the lone parent allowance. The poorest mothers in Britain are right to feel that they have been betrayed.

Talking to Kim Sparrow, I felt dizzy. I was looking into a real abyss between what parents want for their children and the day-to-day reality of many mothers' lives. Kim and her daughter live on £82 a week. "I

said to me. "If you live on benefit, your child eats the cheapest food, the food that's full of pesticides and preservatives, the stuff that other mothers won't touch. You know what's best for your child, but you just can't buy that, the fresh fruit, the vegetables.

While London booms again, Kim's world stays small. "We never go out," she says. At just five years old, Kim's daughter already knows not to ask her for anything more. Far from the hrattish consumerism of a middle-class five year old, she has learnt another way of life. "She knows not to ask. She sees her friends have stuff we don't have, but she's very good. She can sense the stress I'm under, somehow."

But why should Gordon Brown care about Kim Sparrow? He doesn't want to raise the living standards of people on benefit, because he wants to push them into work. That's fine for people with no dependents. But why should women who take menial paid work be supported, while women who do the hard, round-the-clock work of looking after their own children get

always worry about her food," she forced deeper and deeper into poverty? This government doesn't see that looking after children is

work" says him. And even working mothers haven't found any joy in this budget. if they are at the very lowest level of earnings. Elizabeth. another woman who spoke at the Crossroads Centre on Sunday, is a refugee who works part-time for £85 a week. She doesn't want to work longer hours. because her youngest child is just one year old and she wants to spend some time with her. But with such low wages, she doesn't pay tax, so all the tax credits in the world won't affect her.

These aren't the problems of a tiny minority of women. A staggering 4 million children are growing up in households whose income is less than half the national average - that's one in three of all children in Britain. Gordon Brown is making a spurious distinction between the deserving and the undeserving poor, in which the work that mothers do is judged undeserving. "I feel furious, just furious with this government," said Kim Sparrow, and you

# Why the Church of England is failing in the marketplace

THE ARCHBISHOP of Canterbury, Dr George Carey, is fond of saying that the Church of England is "one generation away from extinction". He made the comment again last week at a conference on evangelism. Inevitably, Dr Carey's remarks were repeated in the national press, where they appeared puzzling if not defeatist.

In what sense does the Archhishop mean his statement to he taken? Even the full text of the speech fails to make this plain, Perhaps it is a statement of the obvious. Many institutions are a generation away from extinction in the sense that if a high standard of service, or excellence in some sense, is not maintained, users, however defined, will drift away and the organisation will die. When The Independent was launched, I strongly felt that it was like setting a clock going which wind it up and keep it in good working order. Otherwise it would soon lose time and then fall silent.

Or is Dr Carey making a forecast, predicting that on present trends, the decline in membership will shortly put the viability of the Church of England in doubt? He is certainly gloomy. "We live," he says, "in a society with something of an allergy to religion" and then adds a curious rider - and "even to serious thought". I cannot help but highlight this last phrase. It is such a ridiculous comment. There is no evidence for it. It is just petulance.

Having got that off his chest, the Archbishop went on to say why he believes we are becoming deaf to the claims of religion. We live in a society "oppressed, in the main, not by lack, but by surfeit, not by strife, hut by ease ... and we have paid a price for such comfort and ease. We are in a situation where the



### ANDREAS WHITTAM SMITH

The Archbishop keeps on repeating that the Church is one generation from extinction

things of ultimate importance are could never be allowed to stop; for invisible, obscured by the things of ever and a day we would have to transitory glamour. The love that abides for ever cannot easily endure in such a culture."

The assumption here is that if our material wants are satisfied then our need for spiritual sustenance is thereby abated. Yet all the signs are that our present affluence is being accompanied by an intensification of spiritual longings of one kind or another. Indeed one of the preparatory papers for the conference notes that we live in times where the language of spirituality is significant and popular. What has changed is that the Christian Church is no longer the sole provider. The market is open and competition is fierce.

Dr Carey is thus inviting us to accept that the nation can be allergic to religion while maintaining an interest in spiritual matters - a desert in the midst of green fields, so to speak. He argues that this is happening because Christianity provides a disquieting message for a

rich society. The gospel which must be preached to the public is an implicit criticism of many people's way of life. "They are not going to like. it." The best passage in the Archhishop's speech is where he rails against treating Christianity as an "add on" faith, alongside two lovely children, two holidays a year, two cars, two televisions, two videos and two microwaves.

In support of his thesis, Dr Carey could also cite the latest figures for religious activities in the United Kingdom, Between 1989 and 1997. the proportion of all adults never attending services or meetings connected with their religion increased from 48 per cent to 54 per cent. The latest figure can be reversed, of course, as with the familiar cooundrum of whether a glass containing water up to the mid-point is rightly described as half empty or half full.

As a matter of fact, I think that the statistic that 46 per cent of adults will sometimes attend services or meetings connected with their religion is high. Moreover, some 10 per cent of men and 15 per cent of women attend a religious service at least once a week. In short, substantial numbers of people remain immune to the allergy to religion that Dr Carey has identified.

Look again at the figures, though, and you see something else. Attendance at the Church of England has been declining much faster than it has with other Christian denominations. In the period 1970 to 1995, the number of active Anglicans declined by 40 per cent whereas the Roman Catholic Church experienced a loss of 29 per cent during the same period. Presbyterians were down 34 per cent and Methodists by 37 per cent. In the open market, the Church of England, the hroad church, with its famous flexibility regarding doctrine, is faring less well



Dr Carey: 'A society with an allergy to religion' Edward Sykes

than the Roman Catholic Church, probably explode with anger and say provides an even more challenging message than the Anglican Communion has been more successful.

Indeed, I doubt whether there is an allergy to religion in British society. I find that people who are active Christians are more willing to proclaim their faith in public than used to be the case. We have learnt that the present Cabinet, starting with the Prime Minister, contains more committed Christians than many of its predecessors. I also noticed, recently, when I had to read through over 400 CVs, that where applicable, church membership was mentioned as a relevant fact.

I think that the Archbishop is rattled. The decline in membership, the bruising row about the ordination of women, which still rumbles on, the discovery that the Church Commissioners had mismanaged the Church's capital - all these factors have depressed his spirit.

Reading this, Dr Carey would

with its discipline and its unpopular that I had neglected most of his teaching on sex and marriage. In speech, failed to say that there has other words, a rival church which been an increase in the numbers of people coming forward for ordination for four years running and that more money was being placed in the collection plate. Nor had I mentioned the "rising confidence and optimism" which he notices.

Fair comment - except that occasionally one can detect in public speech a secondary theme, or sub-text, half visible helow the surface. I once heard a wedding speech where, if you listened very carefully, you found that the conventional expressions of good cheer scarcely disguised an underlying hitterness.

So it was with the Archhishop's address. Dr Carey went to the conference on evangelism to provide a lead. Instead, or as well, he made visible his own demoralisation. He keeps on repeating that the church is one generation away from extinction, partly as a warning and partly because that is exactly what he thinks.

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### A country still traumatised by Pol Pot

have recently been integrated into Cambodia's armed forces; the Khmer the country's long-term stability. However, real concerns remain regarding the Cambodian government's commitment to judicial the international community accountability for the actions of the senior Khmer Rouge leaders during the 1975-79 Pol Pot regime. The government's initially warm welcome last December of two defecting senior Khmer Rouge leaders, countries to pursue the although later reversed, sent out mixed signals on the ate international tribunal for government's resolve to

pursue justice The capture on 6 March of leader Ta Mok, who is known as "the Butcher" for his role as ing the years of Khmer Rouge rule, is a very positive development. The US has been working very hard over the past year to accomplish this objective. Secretary Albright personally raised this subject

THOUSANDS OF former Secretary Roth's direction, Khmer Rouge forces Ambassador Quinn has actively pursued this matter with Prime Minister Hun Sen and other Cambodian officials. Rouge no longer represents an I did the same during my immediate military threat to recent visit to Cambodia, as did Ambassador-at-Large for War Crimes David Scheffer

We have conveyed to the Cambodian government and our strong conviction that those senior Khmer Rouge leaders must be brought to justice for their horrendous crimes and we are continuing to work with other interested establishment of an approprithis purpose.

The Cambodian government has a historic opportunity the hardline Khmer Rouge to rebuild the trust of the Cambodian people and to instil confidence in the rule of law by Poi Pot's right-hand man dur- pursuing justice for the leaders of the Khmer Rouge. The government's handling of this issue will send a powerful signal to the people of Cambodia about whether the culture of impunity in Cambodia can be eliminated. The government's during her recent visit to handling of this issue will also South-East Asia. At Assistant be an unportant part of how firmly believe that hringing proportion of amputees than omic reforms.



PODIUM

RALPH L BOYCE From a speech by the US State Department officer for Cambodia to the Senate foreign relations committee

Cambodia is perceived within the international community. The government's stated goal of sustainable development within a system of law cannot be achieved when justice is denied on an issue that has so profoundly affected so many Cambodians. We do not believe that the pursuit of justice is inherently destabilising as some have suggested

justice is a necessary part of the long-term process of Cambodian national reconciliation. The Ambassador-at-Large

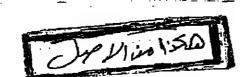
for War Crimes and members of his staff have worked diligently with representatives of the Cambodian government to outline our views on this subject, and we anticipate that we will meet with the Cambodian Foreign Minister Hor Nam Hong during his visit to New York this week to continue this dialogue

The hardships the Cambothe legacy of nearly two socialist central planning. The country is ranked 140 out of 167 countries on the UN's human development list. The statistics are disheartening: half of all children are stunted or chronically malnourished; in every 200 live births, one mother dies, almost 12 per cent of all children born die before the age of five. The country has the fastest growing rate of HIV infection in Asia. And, as a consequence of landmines, in this case. On the contrary, we Cambodia has a higher

any other country in the world. Our current assistance programme is squarely targeted at addressing these needs by providing \$12m in the areas of maternal and child health, HTV/Aids education and prevention, micro-enterprise lending, assistance to war and mine victims and democracy and governance.

Last month, in Tokyo, the United States took part in the International Consultative Group meeting on Cambodia. which sought to reach a muitilateral consensus on meeting dian people face are enormous: Cambodia's pressing development needs. While we signalled decades of war coupled with a our support for an internafailed 10-year experiment in tional response to these needs. we told our international development partners at that meeting that the level and nature of our future assistance programmes will depend in large part on the Cambodian government's actions.

· The United States and other donors will be looking for tangible progress toward genuine democracy, respect for human rights and demonstrated results by the government in carrying out much needed econ-



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# eakdown The German Blair emerges



### **IMRE KARACS**

To be or not to be Blairite has been the central question of dogma for the last two years

THERE WILL be a little ceremony tomorrow at Downing Street, to mark the relaunch of the biggest left-wing party in Europe. "New Labour" will cast its blessings upon Germany's "New Centre", as Chancellor Gerhard Schröder attempts to outsmile Tony Blair in front of the cameras.

It is fitting that Mr Schröder should be visiting London first, so soon after the cataclysmic events of the last few days. Five months in government have been wasted, but Germany will now witness a "new beginning", the spinmeisters assure us. Rid at last of Oskar Lafontaine. the German Chancellor is free to fulfil his destiny.

The "New Centre" hymn sheets are quite specific on where this destiny lies. To be or not to be Blairite has been the central question of dogma for the last two years, and one that defined the gap between the party's two most powerful leaders. "I am tired of hearing that man's name," Mr Lafontaine would snap whenever his views were solicited on Britain's Prime Minister during last year's election campaign. Only modesty prevented Mr Schröder declaring himself "the German Blair", hut he did not protest when his friends in the media stamped that label on him.

Whether such claims were exaggerated, we shall soon find out. With the exception of a few suitably terrified Greens, Mr Schröder now has the cabinet of his choice. Hans Eichel, Mr Lafontaine's successor as Finance Minister, is already swotting up on the briefs doled out by the chancellery. There will no longer be bust-ups with the party chairman, because the Chancellor will now double up in that role. Not since the first years of the Willy Brandt era has a Social Democrat leader enjoyed so much power.

Enjoy, he certain will. Mr ·Schröder's taste for the trappings of office, and his skill in augmenting his influence, are legendary. This is, after all, the man who had entered the Social Democrats' youth wing as a self-proclaimed Marxist, proceeded to play the left off against the right, and emerged as the leader of a united organisation dedicated to serving him alone.

He performed the same trick as Prime Minister of his native Lower Saxony earlier in this decade. He



Gerhard Schröder and Tony Blair: tomorrow New Labour will be casting its blessings upon Germany's New Centre

had formed a coalition with the Greens, and cut them to shreds. In the following elections, the Greens crashed out of the regional parliament, and Mr Schröder, with the votes he had stoten from his erstwhile coalition partners, was able to govern alone.

And now he has done it again, by helping Mr Lafontaine bring discredit to himself and then stabbing him at the most vulnerable moment. The leaks, suggesting that the Chancellor was threatening to resign because of the incompetence of his Finance Minister; were a nice touch. In less than five months, Mr Schröder had turned "Europe's Most Dangerous Man" into a oussycat.

not be easy. The Social Democrat tion campaign. It was "Oskar's" job party, a proud, venerable movement, is to be turned into a vehicle for the frenzy with attacks on speculators, "New Centre". Mr Schröder wants to reform its structure, from the grassroots up to the presidium. transformation, it will be no more

This is where the Blairite experience is the most valuable. Bodo Hombach, the trusted Chancellery Minister, has been picking Peter

Mandelson's brain for years. Last September's election campaign had been closely modelled on Millbank's battle plans, down to parroting slogans, such as "tough on crime, tough on the causes of crime".

The party, though, had been left well alone. That was Mr Lafontaine's fiefdom. Whenever Mr Schröder addressed the "comrades", he was careful to confine his speeches to traditional vocabulary. He spoke a lot about "social justice" and "opportunities", and never of the "trampoline" of the social welfare net which should be propelling the unemployed back into the job. market. That message only went out to more beterogeneous rallies.

The dichotomy was the best-The rest of the task, though, will kept secret of his successful electo rouse the party faithful into a coupon-clippers and other assorted class enemies. Mr Schröder took care of the rest, cajoling disil-Critics say that, at the end of its lusioned conservative voters with promises of making Germany safe

again for business. The double act is over, and since Mr Schröder sees no future in selling the SPD programme to ordinary to fall in line. This is, of course, not the best moment to spring such a reform on Social Democrats, Unlike Mr Blair, the German Chancellor lacks the luxury of time in cozy opposition. Ever since the last Social Democrat Chancellor, Helmut Schmidt, was destroyed by his own party, no one has dared to try anything new. The rank and file do not like innovators, as they have shown

Mr Schröder repeatedly, whenever he came up for election to the national presidium. But with Mr Lafontaine gone, the left is utterly demoralised: "like stragglers deserted by the flock," was how one leading light summed

up their sense of desolation. And the reforms do not have to be as radical as those inflicted by "New Labour". Some of the tenets that Mr Blair had to purge, notably on nationalisation and union power, were discarded by German Social Democrats as far back as 1959. There are no rotten boroughs on Germany's red map, and no 'loony left", especially now that Mr Lafontaine is out of the picture.

Mr Schröder's task is to confront members with economic reality. "You cannot go against the econovoters, it is the party that will have my," he told the Finance Minister

at last week's acrimonious cabinet meeting. Mr Lafontaine accepted So, will Mr Schröder now swim

with the economy, give business all the tax breaks it is asking for, and reverse the trend of rising unemployment? That is, after all, the electoral mandate he cites in arguments with his less voterfriendly colleagues. Maybe. Mr Lafontaine's tax reforms,

universally denounced as a dud, will go through the upper house of parliament this week. No, they will not be scrapped. Mr Schröder has talked "adjustments" when the second phase is unveiled later this year.

Tinkering, of course, will not do, as Mr Schröder himself might bave told any number of election rallies pussyfooting in Germany during the long Kohl era. What the country needed, he would add, was little cost of German labour is radically reduced will Germany regain its competitiveness.

But Mr Schröder is no revolutionary, not even a radical. He is the most German of leaders, for ever seeking consensus and negotiating any upheaval. It is against his instincts to go against vested interests or voter sentiments. In other words, he is a pragmatic politician. Or an opportunist, if you happen to disapprove.

His years as Prime Minister of Lower Saxony are instructive. He was good to the region's biggest employer, Volkswagen, and good to the mions. Both profited from his consummate deal-making. But his home region still did not prosper. His legacy is middling levels of unemployment, economic output, and mediocrity according to just about every other index. Nothing to shout about, but enough to keep getting him re-elected, with an increased share of votes every time.

Now this politician, who has last year. There had been too much turned the attainment of the average into a credo, is running Europe's biggest economy, Already, he is wobbling on policies ranging short of a revolution. Not until the from tax cuts to the reform of the citizenship laws. And still, he is popular because all the shambles, as the voters are convinced, were

But the game of hide-and-seek is up. The bogeyman is gone, the cup of excuses run dry. This will have compromises that take the edge off to be New Centre's last relaunch.

### RIGHT OF REPLY

JUNIOR LODGE



A Jamaican trade representative replies to the US ambassador to the WTO

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RITA HAYES claims that the current banana dispute is jeopardising the credibility of the World Trade Organisa tion. It is certainly true that the credibility of the WTO is undermined when a member acts as judge, jury and prosecutor in its own cause.

**Ambassador Hayes asserts** that the EU has failed to comply with the 1997 WTO ruling on bananas. But only the WTO can determine whether the EU new banano import regime complies with international trade rules. At the request of both the EC and Ecuador, a panel is presently adjudicating on this issue and is due to report on April 12.

The US refused to await this decision, Instead, they pre-empted the WTO by effectively imposing penal sanctions on completely unrelated EC goods exported to the US. The unilateral American action makes a mockery of WTO proceedings. The US objective is to in-

crease the share of fruit marketed by the already dominant US owned companies, To achieve this the US has attacked the very provisions that ensure Caribbean banana producers access to the EC market. In 1998, Caribbean bananas accounted for 7 per cent of all bananas sold in the EC, compared to the 62 per cent market share enjoyed by Latin American producers. But they account for over half of all the export earnings of Dominica, St Lucia and St Vincent and the Grenadines, and form the basis of the economy of regions in both Belize and Jamaica. **Ambassador Hayes refers** 

to President Clinton's claim that the dispute is not about bananas but rules and global prosperity. Pursuit of global prosperity must be permitted to all trading partners, not least the smaller countries. For all Caribbean producers, this dispute is about bananas.

### Forced to live off the land

overtime to persuade us that access

Marion Shoard assumes that we

start, that 10 per cent of England and Wales which is moorland, mountain, heath, down and common, and to

which the promised legislation applies.

will destroy rural Britain.

RURAL LANDOWNERS who are now aghast at the thought of ignorant town-dwellers walking on their land are often delighted to let them in for a fee. As Marion Shoard puts it in her book, "the notion of charging others to walk on British soil arises logically from the existence of a right to exclude". And she cites a series of and waterfalls

open country. It is obligatory reading for the curiously-selected rural



### MONDAY BOOK

A RIGHT TO ROAM BY MARION SHOARD. OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS, £8.99

By a delightful coincidence, her news for him and for the rest of us is splendid book coincides with the that the book is graphically written, promise of legislation to compel tellingly illustrated and a rare landowners to give free access to publishing bargain, with a quarter of landowner, Ewen Cameron, who is to is vital, since the professionals of the chair the new Countryside Agency, landowning lobby are working

FX: 2001

Jason and his Argonauts,

invoked the aid of Zeus's sister.

This life would try the patience

of saintly Robert Bresson,

back to Saturn, or to Piuto.

but do not make me mortal again.

immasculate Samson, Hercules,

let alone muscle-bound Steve Reeves.

Lend me the bicycle of Vittorio de Sica,

Oh for the inetuctable logic of Dr Spock.

Dematerialise me Scotty, beam my particles

This poem comes from Jim Greenhalf's collection

The Dog's Not Laughing: Poems 1966-1998', published at £9.90 by Redbeck Press, 24 Aireville Road, Frizinghall, Bradford BD9 4HH

send me Stanley Kubrick or Gene Roddenberry.

a few special effects, a deity or two.

I could do with Hera or Ray Harryhausen,

examples of turnstiles at cliff-tops assuming that the Government finds

time for the legislation. The good the 438 pages devoted to the key issue of making free access work. This

She demonstrates, from the experience of other European countries where access is taken for granted, that the fears of vandalism, littering and disturbance of wildlife are unfounded. MONDAY POEM She argues, too, that the very limitation of the categories of land to which a right of access is proposed brings its own problems. In farmland, BY JIM GREENHALF for example, pastures, field edges and cropland after the harvest were recognised walking routes in the in crude pursuit of the Golden Fleece, 1940s. Today, access to every footpath

> pheasants for shooting by City types. Woodlands present a more acute dilemma. The Forestry Commission gave access to its holdings but was obliged by the last two governments to sell off many of them. Public access was safeguarded over only 1.5 per cent of the woodland sold by the Com-

has to be fought over by activists. This

is because farmers, in hilarious num-

bers, are importing battery-reared

mission between 1991 and 1995. But neither of these categories, quite apart from lakesides, riversides and seashores, are covered by the proposed legislation. There is an public mind in Scotland than in its uphill task ahead in persuading the British that they have a right of access to their own land. Meanwhile, a rural land and of folk history and skilfully managed public relations culture far greater than in England The reviewer is co-outhor, with Peter campaign has sought to convince us gives Scottish people a new cause of Hall, of 'Sociable Cities'



Rights of passage: new legislation will increase access John Angerson

that the typical owner keeping visitors grievance about the land crimes of the off his land is "not a large-scale, past and makes them readier to conheavily chemical-dependent agribusinessman but a small tenant farmer of agreeable disposition".

This sleight of hand is not subtle enough to deceive Marion Shoard, author of The Theft of the Countryside and of This Land is Our Land. Many of us will remember her facing up to grotesque dukes and their bailiffs in Channel 4's documentary, Power in the Land. Here, with the same mastery of rural history, from William the Conqueror onwards, she both explains how access to the land has been taken by the rich from the poor over centuries, and describes the struggles

of our predecessors to win it back. Her book reminds us, too, that we have had more than a century of tegislation attempting to provide for popular access to land, and that the strength of the landowning interest has defeated or distorted all these efforts. She believes that the argument has been further advanced in the more southerty counterpart, since in our own rural environment. "an awareness of the ownership of

template action than the English". The good news from other countries is that the very illogicality of partial rights creates a demand for their extension. This may be exactly what the landowning lobby fears, but Marion Shoard's careful study of the experience of other nations, such as Germany, Switzerland and Denmark, suggests that it is inevitable.

"Would Switzerland today be taking on the millionaire owners of mansions around Lake Geneva to secure a right for the people to walk along the lake-side if it had not nailed its colours to the mast of a right of access to woodland and mountain pasture in its Civil Code nearly a century ago?" she asks. "Would Germany's citizens enjoy a right along paths and tracks if the 1975 Federal Forest Act, granting a legal right to roam over all woodland, had never heen enacted?" For her, the modest intentions of current policy in Britain are important as a first step towards a shift in power and privilege

### **¾THE INDEPENDENT** INTERNATIONAL

The Independent International, the weekly newspaper, is packed full of international and British news, comment, features and sport. Containing the pick-of-theweek from The Independent and Independent on Sunday, it is



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# General Sir William Jackson

IN APRIL 1940, during the "Phoney Torch", to keep the pressure up on War". William Jackson was one of the first British officers to engage the enemy in battle. He went on to fight with distinction in North Africa and Italy; and after the war reached Army. later becoming Governor of Gibraltar in 1978-82. Few military historians, as he was to become, could claim such a background.

A young subaltern in the Sappers in 1940, he had been sent with his field section to support 15 Infantry Brigade in its advance on Trondheim in Norway. They got as far as Littlehammer before being forced to withdraw by a vastly superior German force and lack of air support. In the fighting retreat to Andalsnes Jackson, by blowing up bridges, often under intense fire, slowed the enemy advance, allowing more time for troops to be evacuated

For his coolness under fire in this hazardous operation he was awarded an MC. He won a bar to it three years later in the tenacious fight for the heavily fortified monastery at Monte Cassino. In appalling winter conditions and often under fire he organised the maintenance of the road and bridges in order that supplies and reinforcements could get through, In North Africa and again in Italy he was blown up by a landmine, being severely injured in the first explosion.

Bill Jackson was born in 1917 in Blackpool where his father, Colonel Albert Jackson, was in charge of the RAMC depot. His mother, whose family name was Fothergill, also came from a long military tradition. When William the Conqueror invaded England in 1066, a Fothergill commanded his army in the north.

Jackson was educated at Shrewsbury. He decided on a military career early on and went to the Royal Milltary Academy at Woolwich, where he became King's Medallist for his year. He then went up to King's College. Cambridge to read Mechanical Science. He was commissioned into

the Royal Engineers in 1937. After his early introduction to battle in Norway, he returned to England and joined the 6th Armoured Divisional Engineers. He was with went to North Africa for "Operation Rommel's forces. Just before Christmas he was severely injured by a land mine at Bou Arada in Tunisia.

After four months in hospital, though still not fit for active service, the highest echelons of the British he was posted to the staff of General Dwight Eisenhower at his Allied Headquarters where, with Rommel now almost a spent force, preparations were being made for landings at Sicily and the subsequent invasion of Italy.

Declared fit in the autumn of 1943. Jackson returned to the 6th Armoured Division, this time to command 8 Field Squadron and was in action in the battle for Garigliano and Cassino and the advance past Rome

In his books, it was his intimate knowledge of not only the practice of war but of men at war at all levels that made him such a fine writer

to the Gothic Line. After being wounded by a land mine at Arezzo, he recovered within a few weeks and joined the staff of the newly appointed Field Marshal Sir Harold Alexander, the Supreme Allied Commander in the Mediterranean. Jackson warmed to and respected Alexander, not least for the fact that he had commanded a battalion at Passchendaele in the Great War at the age of just 24; in 1971 he wrote a military biography of him, Alexander of Tunis as Military Commander.

Now a Major, Jackson returned to England to attend Staff College at Camberley and in May 1945 he became GSO1 at HQ Allied Land Forces in South-East Asia where preparations were in hand for the rethem in November 1942 when they occupation of Malaya. However the surrender of the Japanese in August

brought an end to the plan. Jackson was to remain in the Far East until 1948. It was during this time that he met and fell in love with a young ATS Junior Commander, Joan Buesden. They married a year later.

Jackson became an instructor at Staff College, Camberley, followed by two years on the staff of the RMA Sandhurst. He gained the Royal United Services Institute Gold Medal for a prize essay and his first book. Attack on the West, about Napoleon's campaigns, was published in 1953. His next book was a history of all the invasions of Russia since the Dark Ages, Seven Roads to Mascow (1957).

After a short spell in Germany with the 7th Armoured Division, in 1956 he was posted to the War Office as Assistant Adjutant and QMG (War Plans) where he was in charge of the logistic planning for the Suez Operation. He delighted in his next posting, in command of the Gurkha Engineers in the Malayan jungle for two years, continuing the work of the Hearts and Minds campaign and seeing off the last remnants of the Communist terrorists.

After two more years at Camberley Jackson returned to the War Office as Deputy Director of Staff Duties, where his role was deployment of the Army world-wide, A year of study at the Imperial Defence College in 1965, was followed by another five at the Ministry of Defence where he finished as Assistant Chief of General Staff.

He next appointment, in 1970, as Commander-in-Chief, Northern Command, in charge of military personnel and locations, appealed to his wry sense of humour in its links with his Fothergill ancestor in 1066. In 1973 he returned south to London and the MOD, as Quarter Master General. In this his last Army appointment, he moved many of his staff and supporting organisations out of London, saving manpower and costs. Few men other than Jackson would have had the courage to implement such a large-scale operation.

Thirty-four years after joining the Royal Engineers he became their Colonel Commandant (1971-81). and of the Gurkhas from 1973 to 1978. He was knighted in 1971, and served as ADC General to the Queen from



(1967); Battle for Rome (1969); North African Campaigns (1975) and Overlord, Normandy 1944 in 1978.

In that year he became Governor and Commander-in-Chief of Gibraltan He was determined to understand and make himself accessible to the people of Gibraltar. He developed a close affinity with them and became known to the Foreign and Commonwealth Office for his passionate defence of their interests, and his profound belief in their right to self-determination. His three-year appointment was extended another year.

In 1982 Jackson returned to Britain, but he maintained a resolute defence of Gibraltar. Any movement by the Spanish or the Foreign and Commonwealth Office that might

1974 to 1979. His books during this period include The Battle for Italy letter to The Telegraph or The Times, or to the desk of whoever sought change. He continued to write. His British Official History of the Mediterranean and Middle East was published in three parts in 1984, 1987, and 1988) and he wrote the definitive history of Gibraltar with the

> The Rock of the Gibraltarians (1988). In his books, it was his intimate war, but of the men at war at all levels that made him such a fine writer. As the military obituary writer for The Times (1987-93) he brought warmth and colour and an great perception to his obituaries. He had been at the sharp end and seen much of death and this gave him an abiding respect for those who had served their country in time of war and peace.

Bill Jackson was man of considerable presence who stood tall, with a military bearing until late in life. A consummate professional, he was calm in a crisis and despite his concompassion, particularly for the underdog. A profoundly happy marriage underpinned his life and work.

MAX ARTHUR

knowledge of not only the practice of William Godfrey Fothergill Jackson, soldier and historian: born Blackpool 28 August 1917; MC 1940, and Bar 1943; OBE 1958, GBE 1975; KCB 1971; QMG 1973-76; Military Historian, Cabinet Office 1977-78 and 1982-87; Military Governor and at Hera have produced excellent Commander-in-Chief, Gibraltar 1978-82; married 1916 Joan Buesden (one son, one daughter); died Swindon, Wiltshire 12 March 1999.

# Bjørn Wiik

BJORN WITK was an outstanding scientist and leader in European and world particle physics, equally expert in performing experiments. in the design and construction of accelerators, and in interacting with governments.

He was born in Brucik, Norway, in 1937. After evacuation to England with his family in a British submarine for a period during the Second World War - his father was a resistance leader - he attended high school in Bergen before moving to Darnistadt in Germany to study nuclear physics. Although never again resident in Norway he visited frequently and later became a visiting professor in Bergen and a member of various Norwegian academies and government advisory committees.

His interests turned to particle physics during a seven-year period of post-doctoral research at Stanford University: California. Returning to Germany in 1972 to take up an appointment at the Deutsches Elektronen Synchrotron (Desy) in Hamburg. he became involved in the study of electron-positron collisions. He was a key participant in the so-called Tasso experiment at Desy's electronpositron collider (Petra), which was commissioned in the autumn of t978.

Wilk and collaborators (Soding, Wolf. Wu and others) used the Tasso data to provide the first direct evidence for the existence of a particle known as the gluon and to establish its properties. The discovery of the gluon, which serves to bind quarks together to form neutrons and protons. was a fundamental contribution to our knowledge of the strong (nuclear) force. Furthermore, the success of Petra (which pre-empted a similar , project at Stanford) was an important milestone in establishing the self-confidence of European particle physics.

From the early 1970s. Wilk had been interested in the possibility of colliding beams of electrons and protons in order to extend to higher energies the pioneering "fixed-target" electronproton scattering experiments at Stansiderable intellect he was full of ford, which had produced the most direct evidence for the "reality" of quarks. In 1981, he became responsible for designing the very ambitious superconducting proton storage ring of the proposed electron-proton collider (Hera) at Desy, and three years later was appointed co-project leader when construction was approved. Technically the unique Hera machine, which was commissioned in 1992, has been a great success, and experiments



Wiik: scientific statesman

physics and deepened our knowledge . . of the structure of the proton. As Director of Desy from 1993, Wilk oversaw the exploitation of Hera and led on-going research and development on very high performance superconducting radio frequency cavities. This development, which demonstrated Wilk'a deep intuitive unerence to the notorious weather con- derstanding of the technically possible, has already defied sceptics by never have considered leaving it. The | producing accelerating gradients of 33 million volts per metre. It remains to tivities and achievements, and he he seen whether this technology will be adopted for the construction of a large linear electron-positron collider, as originally intended, but there is no Gerald Alan Hardy, plantsman: born Sandling, Kent 4 April 1926; married 1953 Carolyn Evanson (two

source for hiological studies.

Wiik was a scientific statesman whose advice was sought worldwide. As a member of various national and international advisory bodies, including the International Committee for Future Accelerators (Icfa) of which he was chairman at the time of his death, Wilk played an important role in setting the agenda for European and world particle physics. He was a chairman of the Super Proton Synchrotron Committee and served on the Scientific Policy Committee at Cern in Geneva, where his name was considered on several occasions as possible Director General - a post he would almost certainly have been offered had he wished.

C. H. LLEWELLYN SMITH

Bjørn Hårvard Wiik, physicist born Bruvik, Norway 17 February 1937; Staff Physicist/Senior Scientist, Deutsches Elektronen Synchrotron tising Christian, Ackles had a strong (Desyl, Homburg 1972-81, Hera Project Leader 1981-92, Director 1993-99; Professor of Physics at Il Institute for Experimental Physics. University of Hamburg 1981-99: Chairman, International Commitwriter and teacher: born Rock Island, tee for Future Accelerators 1997-99; Illinois 20 February 1937; married | married 1978 Margaret Becker (one

### Alan Hardy

BRITISH HORTICULTURE, admired as it is throughout the world, would never have achieved such distinction without its tradition of dedicated amateur plantsmen. devoting nearly every free moment to their consuming passion. Alan Hardy was just such a figure. Inheriting the 1.500-acre San-

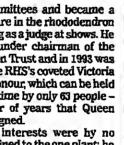
dling estate in Kent from his father, he acquired a tremendous depth of knowledge of trees and shrubs, especially the rhododendrons that thrived in the 27-acre woodland garden developed by his grandfather. Laurence Hardy, from the turn of

He was a true fanatic about both species rhododendrons and hybrids, some of which he bred himself. His flowers won many awards despite the fact that Sandling, exposed as it is above the cliffs near Folkestone. is one of the coldest and windlest spots in south-east England and as such not easy to garden. From the age of 30 he was invited to sit on many of the Royal Horticultural So-

ciety's committees and became a leading figure in the rhododendron world, acting as a judge at shows. He was the founder chairman of the Kent Garden Trust and in 1993 was awarded the RHS's coveted Victoria Medal of Honour, which can be held at any one time by only 63 people the number of years that Queen Victoria reigned.

all aspects of gardening.

But his interests were hy no



His principal occupation was run-

means confined to the one plant: he toved gardening in all its variety. A lifelong love of daffodils was sparked when, as a boy of seven, he was given his first bulb by Lionel Richardson, the renowned Irish breeder. Hardy would eventually become a breeder himself and a respected authority on the flower, always ready to lavish praise and sound advice on this and

ning the estate and its farm: his pedigree cattle and sheep, like his flowers, often won prizes. Aware from an early age that he was destined to take over the estate, he pre-



Hardy: 'the gardener from Siberia'

pared himself in typically thorough fashion. After joining the Coldstream Guards towards the end of the Second World War, he worked briefly on a dairy farm, then gained qualifications in agriculture and animal husbandry at the Royal Agricultural College in Cirencester.

Paul Armiger Soon afterwards he lost a lung through tuberculosis. This sethack meant, among other things, that he was never able to go on planthunting trips to distant parts of the Hardy so valued and exemplified. world, although he always felt that he was with the collectors in spirit in the world of horticulture and is a

His never lost his enthusiasm and courage - qualities he needed in abundance in 1987 when the October

turn to inspect and discuss what they

had found.

hurricane felled more than 800 trees in the woodland garden, destroying the canopy that shielded the understory of acid-loving shrubs. It seemed at first that all the family's work in building the garden over 90 years had been wiped out overnight, but he and his wife Carolyn, whom he married in 1953, were determined to clear the mess and restore the plantings.

The fallen timber had to be manhandled out of the garden and the resulting bonfire continued day and night for two and a half years. Today the garden is well on the way to restoration, partly through the great generosity of friends in donating new

and could scarcely wait for their re-vice-president and former chair-

Scheme: Sandling was one of the original gardens opened to visitors for charity when the scheme was launched in 1927. The couple made a splendid team in all aspects of their lives. They had two daughters, and Hardy was gratified that both have followed in their parents' footsteps, one managing the estate farm with her husband, the other working in Sandling's walled garden.

man of the National Gardens

He had an engaging, teasing sense of humour. Among his fellow enthusiasts he would introduce himself as "the gardener from Siberia" - a refditions at Sandling. But he would estate was the focus of his life's acloved it with an enduring intensity. MICHAEL LEAPMAN

daughters); died 4 February 1999.

### **David Ackles**

THERE IS a cliche in rock journal- les took a degree in Film Studies at ism about "that difficult third the University of Southern Califoralbum". David Ackles's third album nia before working in musical comwas considered by many as his masterwork. A critique of his homeland, American Gothic contained the astounding "Montana Song" which, in 11 minutes, told of the trials faced by the early settlers that made America. He set this to an orchestral score of Coplandesque proportions that etched a panora-

ma reminiscent of John Ford. Born in t937 into a show-business family, David Ackles became involved in performance at an early age. He started out in vaudeville as young as four, and then took the role of Tuck Worden in four Rusty films for Columbia Pictures (My Dog Rusty. 1948; Rusty Leads the Way, 1948, Rusty's Birthday, 1949; Rusty

Having studied English literature at Edinburgh University, Ack- around an individual. He was the

edy, theatre, film and scriptwriting for television. By the late Sixties, he was writing songs that were of great delicacy and Elektra, on the basis of his "Blue Ribbons", employed him as a songwriter.

His persuasiveness led to a more elaborate contract, which resulted in three highly praised albums - David Ackles (1969, later reissued as Road to Cairo), Subway to the Country (1970), American Gothic (1972). Ackles had a richly textured, but unusual, voice for rock music. Whilst he had a tender approach to ballads, the vocal tone could develop into an angry rasp or a scornful snarl, depending on the subject matter.

He shared with Harry Chapin and Randy Newman the ability to write in character and to construct stories

prisoner returning home to find his showed a grasp of a wide range of few people bought. The contract was love had not waited for him ("Down musical styles. ferminated and nothing more was River") and the drifter who couldn't face returning to his family ("Road to Cairo"). But he drew the line at singing in the first person about the wounded soldier who sought to damage children's minds by slipping

them pornography ("Candy Man"). Many of Ackles's songs related to the downtrodden or to those who had created difficult situations for themselves. His music ranged from simple melodies to complex arrangements that could have come from the pen of Bernstein or Gershwin.

His first album used the Elektra house band, yet his arrangements hrought the best out of his musicians. Not for him the bass player who plodded along to keep the beat - instead, the bass line was often a counterpoint to the main theme. By the third album. Ackles was using a full orchestra and his arrangements

The title track of American Gothic said in four minutes what it took David Lynch a complete television series to describe. He then went on to produce a series of vignettes that summed up life in his home country in the late 20th century. Interestingly, the album was made from the perspective of living in England.

Despite critical acclaim, his unusual voice and eclectic style were not to the taste of the general public Something of an artist'a artist, Ackles had a number of songs covered by others; and, although he reached a critical apogee with American

Gothic, he was dropped by Elektra. A switch to Columbia for his fourth album, D.T. Ackles: Five & Dime (1973), didn't assist his musical career. Perhaps Columbia was looking to promote him as another Leonard Cohen.

terminated and nothing more was heard of David Acides until Elektra re-released their three albums on CD in the mid-Nineties. His career in popular music cut

short, Ackies returned to writing television scripts, along with work on hallet scores and some lecturing on commercial songwriting. In 1981, a drunk driver rammed his car and his arm was badly damaged. A steel hip meant he spent six months in a wheelchair. It took years before he was able to return to the piano. Ackles completed the score for a

musical about Aimee Semple McPherson, Sister Aimee, in the early Nineties. He settled on a sixacre horse farm near Los Angeles and worked as a professor of theatre for USC. He was involved in student theatre production and had a success with Kurt Weill and Bertolt Brecht's but the result was a good album that Threepenny Opera in 1997. A prac-



commitment to help others, both directly and through his writing. **BRIAN MATHIESON** 

David Thomas Ackles, singer/song-1972 Janice Vogel (one son); died son, two daughters); died Appel, Tujunga, California 2 March 1999. Germany 26 February 1999.

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the world for his work as the sculptor and designer of the effigy of the Queen which appeared on every coin minted in Britain between 1964 and 1985. He also designed the portrait of the Queen which has appeared on all British definitive postage stamps since 1967, making it one of the most reproduced and best known portraits and instantly recognisable designs of the 20th century.

Machin enjoyed a many-faceted ca-reer which began in the pottery industry as a figure painter on china at Mintons, Stoke-on-Trent. He was born in 1911 in Trent Vale to a family of potters, educated locally, and seemed destined to remain a pottery painter until the stump in the pottery industry in North Staffordshire in 1929-30 led him to try his luck at the Crown Derby Porcelain Works.

While at Derby, Machin studied parttime at the Derby School of Art and in 1934 become a full-time student. Three years later he was awarded a scholarship to the Royal College of Art where his main course of study was sculpture, working mainly in terracotta under Professor Richard Garbe.

In 1940, Machin won a Silver Medal and a Travelling Scholarship for Sculpture from the Royal College, but since it was wartime be was unable to take advantage of it. However, in the same year Machin's terracotta Mother and Child was accepted for the Royal Academy's Summer Exhibition, and he began what was to be an important association with Josiah Wedgwood & Sons.

Throughout their history Wedgwood has been a generous patron of the arts and artists and Machin was given every encouragement. He was provided with a studio on the new Barlaston estate and extensive facilities for firing his models as well as mixing special bodies for him to use. Machin for his part, produced models for reproduction in Queen's ware (a cream-coloured earthenware) which must be considered among the most important of the 20th century.

During his association with Wedgwood's which continued throughout the 1940s, Machin created more than 20 figures, and a variety of other models, including animals, a chess set and designs for jasper ware. Outstanding are his two bulls, Ferdinand and Tourus, which show strength of form and humour; my own favourites are those pieces inspired by traditional Staffordshire flatbacks or chimney figures such as Country Lovers and the Bridal Group which express his genuine understanding of Staffordshire pottery.

Alongside his work for Wedgwood's, Machin pursued relentlessly the art of terracottas, working largely from imag-

ARNOLD MACHIN was known around ination. He was a romantic by temperament and like the baroque sculptors he exploited to the full the decorative value of fluttering draperies and jewelled ornaments. On his rare excursions into direct carving, working in harder materials, his models were conceived in relation to the shape of the material and include simplified forms such as the planewood Pig owned by a member of the Wedgwood family.

Arnold Machin

Some of his subjects may be remote from modern life but they are seldom unconvincing or unreal. Although for the early part of his career Machin did not care much for portraiture, he had a flair for capturing the essentials of character and executed some remarkable busts and portrait medallions - among his best known being the bust of Sir Ralph Wedgwood Bt.

Machin's use of materials varied ac-

In 1956 he chained himself to a gas lamp about to be replaced by a concrete electric post, in protest against the spread of 'Subtopia'

cording to the nature of his subject, and he even used saggar-mari - a coarsetextured and uncompromising clay-for the more dramatic subjects such as the Dead Christ. Sometimes he enriched his surfaces with incised lines or applied washes of slip, making his work essentially ceramic in character.

With increasing experimentation and technical mastery Machin built larger pieces, culminating in Spring, a life-size full-length figure which was exhibited in the Royal Academy Summer Exhibition in 1947, the year he was elected an Associate of the Royal Academy. The figure was purchased by the Chantry Bequest for the Tate Gallery which had previously purchased two important terracottas by him. John the Boptist and the Annunciation. Machin become a full Academician in 1956 and was appointed OBE in 1965.

It was Machin's passion for form and his ability to communicate his love of the material that made him an influential teacher. He taught at the Stoke-on-Trent



been a pupil of the modeller Eric Owen before moving to Derby, and from 1951 to 1958 at the Royal College of Art. Then, following in the footsteps of John Flaxman RA, who had produced models for Wedgwood in his youth, Machin became Master of Sculpture at the Royal Academy School, a position he held until 1967.

During this period he received his prestigious commissions for coinage and stamp designs and he went on to design the commemorative crown coins for the Royal Silver Wedding in 1972 and Silver Jubilee in 1977. Throughout this time Machin continued to work with ceramics on a freelance basis, undertaking several commissions which included portraits of the Royal Family for Wedgwood, and for Royal Worcester. In 1968 he modelled a set of four allegorical hard-paste porcelain figures of the Four Seasons for Worcester.

Arnold Machin was a quiet man with strong beliefs. He made local headline news in 1956 when he chained himself schools of art in the 1940s, where he had to a gas lamp in Stoke, which was des-

tined to be replaced by a concrete electric post, declaring that this stand was part of a growing campaign against the spread of "Subtopia" (modernism) being led against Sir Hogh Casson. He was also prominent among the Academicians who protested against the Sensation exhibition in 1997, which included a portrait of the murderer Myra Hindley made with children's handprints.

Almost 20 years ago 1 interviewed him in his Staffordshire garden. Garden design became one of his major hobbies and with his wife, the flower painter Patricia Newton, he created an enchanting garden with roses, loggias and grottos, waterfalls and fountains interspersed with ornaments and scripture. MAUREEN BATKIN

Arnold Machin, sculptor: born Trent Vale, Staffordshire 30 September 1911: ARA 1947, RA 1956; Master of Sculpture, Royal Academy School 1958-67; OBE 1965; married 1949 Patricia Newton (one son); died 9 March 1999.



FINANCIAL NOTES

DAVID YALLOP

## The buying power of illegal narcotics

IMAGINE A multi-national company so big and power-ful that its annual turnover is equal in size to China's gross national product, making that company 11th in the world rankings ahead of the Netherlands Australia Russia and India. A company whose gross turnover for just one financial year is sufficient to buy at current market value the world's three largest public compa-nies, General Electric, Royal Dutch Shell and Microsoft. A company that if it dipped into its petty cash could in the same year huy Coca-Cola. A company where just 10 days turnover is in excess of the combined assets of the world's top 50 banks.

Its current annual turnover is \$500bn. The cash mountain is derived from just three assets. People, paper and product - illegal drugs.

The cartel of cartels - the drugs alliance that sits at the top of the infrastructure of the illegal narcotic world has an inexhaustible quantity of these three assets. They are endlessly available. The product, whether cocaine, opium, heroin, marijuana or the range of chemical drugs such as amphetamine, PCP, LSD, generates the paper, the dollars, the euro, sterling and countless other currencies which feed the machine the people.

If the profits for the cartels are vast, so also are the quantities that they pump into the market. If the annual

supply of cocaine were to be packed in 1.5kg bags - the size of a regular bag of flour - the amount supplied to the United States each year would, if stood on top of each other, be four times as high as Mount Everest. If the amount supplied to the entire world were similarly stacked it would be 13 times as high as Everest.

The world that this power grouping at the top of the illegal narcotics pyramid inhabits is a world where money by the ton is available for whatever is needed. In Latin America the cartels huy presidents as easily as they buy a customs official or a DEA (Drugs Enforcement Agency) official. Or the technical know-how to create and operate "El Gordo"

El Gordo, "the fat one", is the pet name for a computer regarded by its creator as "out of this world". An apt description for a system based on Nasa's computer network. No one makes a phone call, sends a fax, uses a computer, in many a Latin American city, without "sharing" the line with the fat one.

The fat one is linked to its hrothers in Medellin, Cali, Bogota, Caracas, Lima and La Paz. It has immediate access to every scrap of information contained on police and Intelligence computers in Colombia and Venezuela. Peru and Bolivia: the criminal records, identification data, status of all criminal

A string of hotels, major business centres and industrial companies in Italy. A huge office block on the Avenue des Champs-Elysees, another in Rue de Ponthieu and a third in Rue de Berry in Paris. Prestige real estate holdings in Montreal. A marioa in Vancouver and large farm holdings near Edmonton in Canada, Farm boldings are something that the drug barons are particularly fond of. They own huge tracts of land in virtn-

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In the United States drugs money has probably been used to buy five huge apartment blocks in Washington, and in New York a residential area of 250 acres situated at Oyster Bay. All of these assets are owned by offshore nominees

ally every country in South

In Great Britain profits from the sale of narcotics are rumoured to have been laundered to acquire substantial holdings in Canary Wharf, Belgravia, Mayfair, Hampstead and the City, a piece of the Channel Tunnel, a piece of the Japanese high speed rail network, a piece of Sydney's husiness centre, two marinas in Auckland . . .

The above list of holdings represents less than 20 per cent of the legal assets that have been acquired with dirty

David Yallop is the author of Unholy Alliance' (Bantam, 16 March, £9.99)

## Dr Amin Majaj

AMIN MAJAJ was a brilliant physician and a devoted public servant who enjoyed a wide circle of friends in Britain as well as in the Arab world. In the late Forties and Fiftiese he made detailed researches into malnutrition and its attendant diseases among children in the Palestinian refugee camps. and devised treatments for them.

Born in Ramallah in 1921 to a well known Christian family that belonged to the Anglican Episcopalian Church, Majaj was educated at St George's High School in Jerusalem (part of the Anglican bishopric), going on to the American University of Beirut in 1945 and to London University where he studied medicine, specialising in child health.

Back in Jordan, Majaj was confronted by a new and challenging situation. There were now half a million refugees from Palestine in Jordanian camps, kept alive by Unwra rations. Many children were dying from gastro-enteritis and deficiency diseases.

Majaj realised that malnutrition among mothers was making breastfeeding ineffective and that lack of an- Jerusalem. He also served as a mem-

deficiency resulting in diseases such as kwashiorkor. The remedy, a diet rich in animal proteins and vitamin B12 injections, was easier to recommend than

to implement. His researches continued until the children's wards in the Augusta Victoria Hospital in Jerusalem, where Majaj worked as head of the paediatrics department from 1950 to 1991, received a direct hit when the Israelis invaded the West Bank during the 1967 war.

Majaj published the results of his researches in the American Journal of Clinical Nutrition in 1966, in the Gazette of the Egyptian Paediatric Association of 1960 and in British and German medical journals. He was paediatrician at the Makased Islamic Hospital in Jerusalem from 1967 to 1982 (director from 1977), as well as on the board of hospitals in Gaza and Nablus.

He was on the Jerusalem municipal

imal protein in the rations was the cause ber of the Jordan parliament from 1967 of iron deficiency anaemia, and protein to 1988, and as Minister of Health in 1967 and in 1964. Among his many other responsibilities he took over direction of Musa Alami's Arab Development Society in Jericho, which took boys out of Palestinian refugee camps to teach them agricultural and other skills.

Amin Majaj was a delightful man, making little of his many achievements in medicine and politics, humorous and the best of company. In his youth be had been a violinist of professional standard. Life under Israeli occupation was never easy for him, but his refusal to compromise his beliefs as a healer, a researcher, or a Palestinian provided an example admired by all.

In 1947 he married Betty Dagher from Lebanon, who is presently director of the Princess Basma Centre for Disabled Children in Jerusalem.

EDWARD HODGKIN

Amin Majoj, physician: born Ramallah, council from 1950 and at the time of Polestine 21 March 1921; married 1947 his death was acting mayor of East

Bethy Dogher (one son, three doughters);
Hospital, Jerusalem, where he
Jerusalem. He also served as a memdied Jerusalem 2 January 1999.

Was Head of Paediatrics 1950-91



Majaj at the Augusta Victoria

### CASE SUMMARIES

15 MARCH 1999

THE FOLLOWING notes of judgments were prepared by the reporters of the All England Law Reports.

Sentencing

R v Brown and ors; CA, Crim Div (Auld LJ, Forbes, David Steel JJ) 3 Feb 1999.

WHILST SUBSTANTIAL SEDtences were justified for offences of conspiracy to pervert the course of justice and conspiracy to corrupt a police officer because of the impact of such offences on the criminal justice system, a starting point of 13 years' imprisonment was far too high, even where a defendant who was a former police officer had used know-how and contacts gained during his time in the police force in committing a pattern of seri-

ous offences. John Nutting QC, Anne Johnston (Registrar of Criminal Appeals) for Brown; Gruham Henson 1Registrar of Criminal Appeals) for King; Sasha Wass (Registrar of Criminal Appeals) for Mahoney.

Negligence

Nationwide Building Society v Thimbleby & Co; Ch D (Blackburne J) 26 Feb 1999. "NEGLIGENCE" IN s 4 of the Law Reform (Contributory Negligence) Acr 1945, whether applied to a plaintiff or a defendant, meant negligence actionable as a tort. Accordingly, contributory negligence was not available as a defence in an action for damages for

Michael Driscoll QC. Timothy Higginson, Ian Gatt (Dibb Lapton Alsop) for the plaintiff; Nicholas Davidson QC, Francis Bacon (Browne Jacobson) for the defendant.

IN Prospect, Nicolas Walter

refers to "what we used to

call an 'ittite' " - one free

with the pronoun. One

hundred and fifty years

ago Macaulay told Bulwer-

Lytton, "There is no fault so

common even in our best

writers as that of putting he

He amended some John-

son: "Pope lived in the clos-

and it in wrong places."

deceit

Insolvency

Re a debtor (No SD 27 of 1998); Ch D (Neuberner J) 4 March 1999. THE COURT could set aside a statutory demand served on a debtor in respect of a stopped cheque under r 6.5(a) of the Insolvency Rules 1986 where the debtor raised a claim against the creditor which could not be a defence to a claim on the cheque, if it were satisfied that there was a good reason for so doing.

Matthew Wales (Rickerby Watterson, Chellenham) for the debtor; Louise Varty (Grange Wintringham, Grimsby) for the respondent.

**Crown Court** 

ex p Input Management Ltd; QBD, Div Ct (Kennedy LJ. Blofeld J) 4 March 1999. WHERE NO reasons had been given by a judge sitting with justices in the Crown Court when dismissing an appeal from the

magistrates' court, a note of the proceedings subsequently provided by the judge, which was unsupported by an affidavit and was not signed by the other members of the court, was of no real weight. Reasons for a decision should be given contemporaneously so that the appellant might be assured that there was no ex post facto rationalisation. Kevin de Haan (Downs, Dorking) for the applicant, David Travers

interested party. Discovery

Manaiee Towing Co and anor v Oceanhulk Maritime SA and anor: Oceanbulk Maritime SA and anor v Manatee Towing Co and ors; QBD, Commercial Ct (Rix J) 4 March 1999.

(Legal Department, Redbridge

London Borough Council) for the

THE COURT had jurisdication to grant the third defendant by counterclaim discovery of documents from the plaintiffs. The modern rules made a clear distinction between cases where the interrogatories or discovery requested had to relate to a matter in question between the applicant and respondent parties. and those where discovery could be made by any party against any other party without the additional limitation that the documents should relate to a matter arising directly between the parties. Nigel Eaton (Jackson Parton) for the plaintiffs: Tim Kenefick (Sinclair Roche & Temperleu) for the third defendant to the

Costs

Globe Equities Ltd v Kotrie and ors; CA (Butler-Sloss, Morritt, Sedley LJJ) 5 March 1999. IN DECIDING whether the court should exercise the power conferred by \$51(1) and (3) of the Supreme Court Act 1981 to make a non-party firm of solicitors pay the costs of the proceedings, the test was whether it would be just to do so. There was not usually any justification for making someone else pay the costs in the ordinary run of cases where the party was pursuing or defending the claim for his own benefit through solicitors acting as such, but there would be cases where either or both of those features were absent, and in such cases it would be a matter for the judge's discretion,

Gabriel Moss OC. Rozonne Ismail (Weightmans) for the firm; James Bonney QC, Jonathan Gavaghan (Willan Bootland White) for the

Words **CHRISTOPHER** HAWTREE

est intimacy with his (Pope's) commentator, and amply rewarded his (Warburton's) kindness and zeal; for he (Pope) introduced his (Pope's) works."

ittite, n.

him (Warburton) to Mr Murray, by whose interest he (Warburton) became preacher at Lincoln's Inn. and to Mr Allen who gave him (Warburton) his (Allen's) niece, and his (Allen's) estate, and by consequence a bishopric. When he (Pope) died, he (Pope) left him (Warburton) the property of

## **GAZETTE**

#### BIRTHS, **MARRIAGES** & DEATHS

IN MEMORIAM

March 1997. So loved. Mum, Dad

#### LECTURES

British Museum: Richard Kibrya, "Environmental Monitoring", 2pm. Royal Society of Arts, London WC2: Michael Frye, Professor Christopher Frayling, "Licensed to Skill: the matching of skills to tomorrow's needs", 6pm.

#### BIRTHDAYS

former MP, 49; Mr Alexander Bernstein, former chairman, Granada Group, 64; Dr David Bryer, director, Oxfam, 55; Miss Isobel Buchanan, soprano, 45; Mr James Butler, former senior partner, KPMG Peat Marwick, 70; Sir Robert Carnwath, High Court judge, 54; Lord Constantine of Stanmore, former company chairman, 89; Mr Ry Cooder, folk and blues guitarist, 53: Mr Frank Dobson MP, Secretary of State for Health. 58: Mr Charles Drace-Francis. High Commissioner to Papua New Guinea, 56; Professor Sir James Dunbar-Nasmith, architect, 72; Mr John Duttine, actor, 51; The

mer Bishop of Coventry, 82;

#### neurosurgeon, 83; Earl Haig, painter, 81; Sir Leonard Knowles, former Chief Jus-Lord Alton of Liverpool,

tice of the Bahamas, 83: Mr Mike Love, vocalist, 55; Admiral Sir Raymond Lygo. former chief executive. British Aerospace, 75; Mr Keith McCarter, sculptor, 63; Professor Joan Mitchell. political economist, 79; Mr Michael Moore, chairman, Quicks Group, 63; Mr Robert Nye, novelist and poet, 60: Mr Ben Okri, writer, 40; Sir Philip Powell, architect, 78; The Right Rev Michael Scott-Joynt, Bishop of Winchester, 56; Mr Gavin Stamp, historian and writer, 51: Professor Robert Taylor, Vice-Chancellor, University of Buckingham, 56; Sir Roger Tomkys, Master of Pembroke College, Cambridge, 62; Mr David Wall, Right Rev John Gibbs, forformer director, Royal Academy of Dancing, 53. Professor John Gillingham,

#### ANNIVERSARIES

Births: William Lamb, secand Viscount Melbourne, statesman, 1779; Lady Isabella Angusta Gregory (Persse), playwright and a founder of the Abbey Theatre, Dublin, 1852 Deaths: Gaius Julius Caesar, assassinated 44 BC; Sir Joseph William Bazalgette, engineer, 1891; Aristotle Onassis, ship-owner, 1975; Dame Rebecca West (Cicely Isobel Fairfield), writer, 1983. On this day: Columbus returned to Spain after his first voyage to America, 1493; the first 11-a-side cricket Test Match was played, Australia vs England, at Sydney, 1876; Nicholas II, Tsar of Russia, abdicated, 1917. Today is the Feast Day of St Clement Mary Hofbauer, St Longinus, St Louise de Marillac, St Lucre tia or Leocritia, St Matrona and St Zachary, pope.

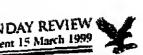
#### ROYAL **ENGAGEMENTS**

The Duke of Edinburgh President Emeritus of the World Wide Fund for Nature WWF International, Founder and Chairman of the Trustees of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award International Foundation, visits Monaco. The Duke of York, Patron, London Contemporary Dance Trust, attends a dinner at The Place, London WC1. The Duke of Kent, Chancellor, Surrey University attends a Business Advisory Group meeting at Brooks's, London SW1.

CHANGING OF THE GUARD

The Household Cavalry Mounted Regiment mounts the Queen's Life Guard at Horse Guards, 11am.

Post Gazette announcements to the Gazette Editor, The Independent, telephone 0171-293 2012 (24-hour answering machine 0171-293 2011) or fax to 0171-293 2010. Please give a daytime telephone number.





Nicola and her older sister Mary have always been there for each other, but Mary thinks Nicola is more confident since writing about the pain of divorce

# Divorce is like death

Nicola bout two weeks after my husband told me he was leaving, in May 1997, I wrote a couple of pieces to make myself feel better, make myself laugh, and sent them to a one or two friends to make up for having cried all over them non-stop. They really liked them. so I wrote more and sent them off to The Independent. Publishing the columns was a way of communicating with my now ex-husband - we weren't speaking at all. I wanted him to see I was upset, but that I could be funny. I thought it was a way of getting him back. Crazy. He was very, very angry.

Then I had a letter from a publisher who'd seen the diary, asking if I'd thought of writing a comic novel. I had always wanted to write fiction - and I had no other way of making a living. Divorce is taken so lightly, as if it was like having your adenoids out, but all the women and men I spoke to were knocked for six by theirs. Two years later, and in a new relationship, I still dave days where I can't do anything but cry. What I found out about women who had been dumped in similar circumstances horrified me.

my novel is very very horrible; my ex completely partisan, totally and com- accept the pain. We'll never be a real humour came across to me very is published by Florie at £10

#### **FAMILY AFFAIR**

When Nicola Davies's husband left her and their two children for a younger woman, it was a bolt from the blue. Under the pseudonym Stevie Morgan, she wrote a diary about her divorce, Beloved and Bonk', for "The Independent". Now she has written a novel based on her experience. Nicola, 40, lives in the West country Mary Shooter, 52, is her only sister: a teacher with four grown-up children, she lives in Wales.

isn't. But Martin is not that important: he's the catalyst, the knife that cuts things into a different shape, so he's a cartoon combination. My ex has read hits of the hook and doesn't accept it is fiction, but I can't do anything about that. I showed the columns to my children, now 10 and 11, and they were very upset and angry at first, but that was because their father was angry. Once we had talked it through, they could see the funny side and they knew I wasn't trying to be horrible. They could see it was making me feel hetter. Now they are really proud of me. Very little is written about children

going through awful things, and although the events are fictional in the novel, the feelings are very real and show that the children were terribly upset. I don't see emotions as things that you have to hide away.

My sister Mary was just what you Martin, the husband character in wanted when your husband leaves - death, your heart stays broken, but you her feel better, she should do it. The 'Delphinium Blues' by Stevie Morgan

pletely on my side. Mary and I turn to family again. I'm happy, but in a difeach other. She is older than I, so her ferent way - I have hope, but not faith. role can be quite maternal. She wasn't as surprised as I was when my husband left: she did feel he would be very angry when the columns came out. I think she thought they would backfire on me and the kids. But she's never reproached me for anything

I swear this wasn't about revenge. I could have been far more horrible. People may call me a total cow for writing it. Well, I'm not, but I have to survive. Writing about it all has made me much more confident. I'd presented children's TV programmes but I never felt I'd been successful, unlike my ex. The column and novel have been terrifically exciting. I'll never regret writmg about my divorce: unis book saved me, otherwise I'd have had to sell my was very sad and unhappy. They gave house and move the kids to where they her courage and pep and made her didn't want to live. But a divorce is like laugh. I felt if publishing them made

ur mother got cancer when Nick was two and a half and, as I am 12 years older, I looked after her a lot, so I was never quite sure if I was her mother or sister. I hadn't felt happy for a while about her marriage. I felt her husband, who worked away from home, was an absent father and didn't value their relationship. I didn't expect them to split, but I did feel a sense of relief, mixed with awful pain.

She started sending me the pieces

strongly, but perhaps I tried to shut out the distress. I read the book in one day because, although it is funny, it was so painful I wanted it to be over.

I never worried about the effect on her husband - I'm more vindictive than she is. She was so loving about him just after the split - it was all her fault and so on - but I wanted her to be angry. I thought writing about it'd help. She seemed so happy when she married him, and he seemed so lovely.

I was worried that the children might read about it and be upset. I avoided talking to them about it as I'm not sure how to deal with it. But their anger seems to have dissipated - the columns and the book have been like lancing a boil for all of them. I see very few differences between

Nick and Jess, the narrator in the novel She's got herself down to a tee. She can be the victim, but she can also be strong and independent.

Writing about it all has made her so much more confident, as if she's gone through the test of fire and come out she'd written, and I felt pleased as it stronger. Now I feel more like her sis-

> INTERVIEWS BY HILLY JANES

## 'But I'm not tired!'

Children's bedtime needn't be a battleground, as long as you time it right. By Caroline Millar

BEFORE YOU have children, you imagine their bedtime will be a calm, peaceful time. But, as many harassed parents can testify, it is one of the major buttlegrounds of child-rearing. My son, aged nine, nags con-

stantly for a later bedtime. He complains that he is the only boy in his year who doesn't watch Match of the Day. He protests that he can't get to sleep early anymore. Weakening, we sometimes allow him to stay up. But then my daughter objects. Aged six, she's ready for bed by eight o'clock Understandably though, she doesn't want to go up by herself. Between the two of them, bedtime lasts till nearly 10pm. By which time my husband and I are too tired to do more than follow on up to our own bed.

In my childhood, bedtime was 7.30 sharp and no arguments. But many parents re-port that today's children are going to bed much later than we did at their age. Sheila Munro, Training Officer for the Parent Network, agrees: "It's got a lot to do with the TV culture, and parents working longer hours." She says what matters is the amount of sleep children get, not the time they go to bed.

"In previous generations, it was more a culture of you eat at a certain time, and you sleep at a certain time". Munro warns, "it is as vital as ever that children get enough sleep. Often the problem is that children go to bed late and get up early. Also, it isn't just the amount of sleep that matters, it is the quality. If they watch lots of TV before they go to bed, the mind is stimulated and that can affect dream patterns."

Michelle Stannard-King finds that peer pressure to watch TV makes her sons Michael, seven, and Dino, six, want to stay up. "I did have them in a nice routine when they were younger - they used to be in bed by 6.30. But now with Michael at junior school, they say 'So-and-so watches this on TV, we want to watch it'."

юще засе пош work, Cath Gall was very aware routine in the world, your child of the temptation to keep her could suddenly move on and children, Lauren, 11, Thomas, nine and Nicholas, six, up. "In



Sleep may not come easily

time travelling. I'd get in and I hadn't seen much of them. But I had to get them off to bed because of the husy day tomorrow." Now that she gets home earlier, she continues with a fairly strict bedtime routine. "My husband Bill and I think it's important for children to realise they've had their time, and that late evening is our time."

Dawn Canham, who educates her daughters at home, agrees that there is a pressure from children to stay up later. "But it is important for me to have some time for me - maybe because I have them all day." It is sometimes hard to halance the needs of her younger daughter Katie, five, with her eight-year-old, Rachel, "Rachel is allowed to read in bed until nine o'clock, and Kalie wants to go to bed later because she knows Rachel's still reading."

What works best, says Munro, is a strict bedtime routine. "If you have to invent the wheel every night, it'll be harder. Sometimes, all the action's going on in the sitting-room and the children are meant to just magically vanish. Of course, they don't want to go."

"But if a child knows that this is what we do at weekdays and it's later at weekends, you've got a better chance of co-operation." Adult evenings become increasingly a thing of the past. "As children grow into the next stage of development, often bedtime is where it shows. inen, even il you ve got the be you have to renegotiate."

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## Why do killers get a better deal than junkies?

RECENTLY learned from an old friend in lows that if you are caught in possession of a sin-gle dose of LSD in my native state you face a mandatory sentence of seven years in prison without parole. Never mind that you are, say,

18 years old and of previous good character, that this will ruin your life, that it will cost the state \$25,000 a year to keep you incarcerated. Never mind that perhaps you didn't even know you had the LSD - that a friend put it in the glovebox of your car without your knowledge or maybe saw police coming through the door at a party and shoved it into your hand before you could react. Never mind any extenuating circumstances whatever. This is America in the 1990s and there are no exceptions where drugs are con- remotely my intention here to cerned. Sorry, but that's the way

it is. Next. It would be nearly impossible to exaggerate the ferocity with which the US now prosecutes drug offenders. In 15 states you can be sentenced to life in prison for owning a single marijuana plant. Newt Gingrich, when he was still House Speaker, proposed that anyone caught bringing as little as two ounces of marijuana into the US should be imprisoned for life without possibility of parole. Anyone caught bringing more than two ounces would be executed. A law to this effect is currently working its way through Congress.

According to a 1990 study, 90 per cent of all first-time drug offenders in federal courts were sentenced to an average of five years in prison Violent firsttime offenders, by contrast, were imprisoned less often and



received on average just four years in prison. You are, in short, less likely to go to prison for kicking an old lady down the stairs than you are for being caught in possession of a single dose of any illicit drug. Call me soft, but that seems to me a trifle disproportionate.

Please understand it is not

speak in favour of drugs. I appreciate that drugs can mess you up in a hig way. I have an old schoolmate who made one LSD voyage too many in about 1977 and since that time has sat on a rocker on his parents' porch examining the backs of his hands. So I know what drugs can do. I just haven't reached the point where it seems to me appropriate to put to death someone for being foolish. Not many of my fellow countrymen would agree with me. It is the clear and fervent wish of most Americans to put but a week or so later he redrug users behind bars, and they are prepared to pay almost any price to achieve this. The people of Texas recently voted down a \$750m bond proposal to build new schools, but

endorsed a \$1bn bond for new prisons, mostly to house people convicted of drug offences.

has more than doubled since 1982. There are now 1,630,000 prisoners. Sixty per cent of federal prisoners are serving time for non-violent offences, mostly to do with drugs. America's prisons are crammed with nonviolent petty criminals whose problem is a weakness for illegal substances.

Because most drug offences carry mandatory sentences and exclude the possibility of parole, other prisoners are having to be released early to make room for all the new drug offenders pouring into the system. In consequence, the average convicted murderer in the US now serves less than six years, the average rapist just five. Moreover, once he is out, the murderer or rapist is immediately eligible for welfare, food stamps and other federal assistance. A convicted drug user, no matter how desperate his circumstances may become, is denied these benefits

for the rest of his life. The persecution doesn't end there. My friend in Iowa once spent four months in a state prison for a drug offence. This was almost 20 years ago. He did his time and since then has been completely clean. Recently, he applied for a temporary job with the Postal Service as a holiday relief mail sorter. Not only did he not get the job, ceived an affidavit threatening him with prosecution for failing to declare that he had a felony conviction involving drugs.

The Postal Service runs background checks for convictions as a matter of routine but only with respect to drugs. Hád he killed his grandmother ago, he would in all likelihood have got the job.

It gets more amazing. The government can seize your property if it was used in connection with a drug offence, even if you did not know it. In Connecticut, according to a recent article in the Atlantic Monthly magazine, a federal. prosecutor named Leslie C Ohra made a name for herself by seizing the property of almost anyone even tangentially connected with a drug offence - including a couple in their eighties whose grandson was found to be selling marijuana out of his bedroom. The couple had no idea of course. They lost the house anyway. (Soon after, Ohra's own 18-year-old son was arrested for selling LSD out of his mother's car and alleged also to have sold drugs from her house. She was merely transferred to another assignment.)

The saddest part of this zealous vindictiveness is that it simply does not work. America spends \$50bn a year fighting drugs, and yet drug use goes on and on. The government enacts increasingly draconian laws until we find ourselves at the ludicrous point where the Speaker of the House can seriously propose to execute people - strap them to a gurney and snuff out their lives - for possessing the botanical equivalent of two bottles of vodka.

My solution to the problem would be to take that \$50bu and spend it on rehabilitation and prevention. Some of it could be used to take coachloads of youngsters to look at that schoolmate of mine on his Iowa porch. I am sure it would per-America's prison population and rsped his sister 25 years drugs in the first place. suade most of them not to try

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It's not just Britain's ancient buildings that need preserving. High-rise council flats play a part in our history, too. By James Fisher

# What's the storey?

he phrase "listed building" summons up estate agents descriptions of flatfrooted Georgian houses, ancient halftimbered manors and romantic country piles - the words have a magic and resonance not usually associated with 20th-century blocks of council flats. But increasingly, as history rolls forward, buildings from the recent past are being giveo the same status as those designed by Wren or Adam.

Isokon Flats in Camden, oorth London, and Keeling House, in the city's East End, are two such examples: both are modernist; experimental; made from concrete; council-owned - and both are derelict. Keeling House was designed by National Theatre architect Sir Denys Lasdun, as a post-war attempt to recreate the pre-war terraced neighbourhoods of Bethnal Green vertically. The 64-flat "cluster block" is listed grade II\* but has been boarded up for four years. Isokon Flats has been vacant for less time and its status is even higher grade I listed. Designed by Wells Coates in 1932, the flats were the first to be built in Britain in the fully modern style, and they had illustrious early tenants, including Agatha Christie, Henry Moore, Walter Gropius and Marcel Breuer - the latter were modernist architects fleeing Nazi Germany. Breuer went on to design the building's famous Isobar

There is oo serious argument over the architectural importance of the two buildings, but listing them has presented the two councils that own them with such serious ecoing to sell them.

Tim Ravenscroft, the Tower ously worked as an architect and being the estimated figure. appreciates its architectural qualities, but argues that in his current function, but it is the construction which is problematic. On a pragmatic level we have serious housing and funding problems. It is even not being able to attend; a trust has

costing us money to keep it empty. In the past the council has called Keeling House "a running sore" on its funds and, after a failed attempt to restore it with the Peabody Trust housing charity, it is now exploring whether the private sector can take the building off its hands. Confidential negotiations are being conducted with a developer, but significant doubts remain about the viability of restoring the building, which would cost several millions.

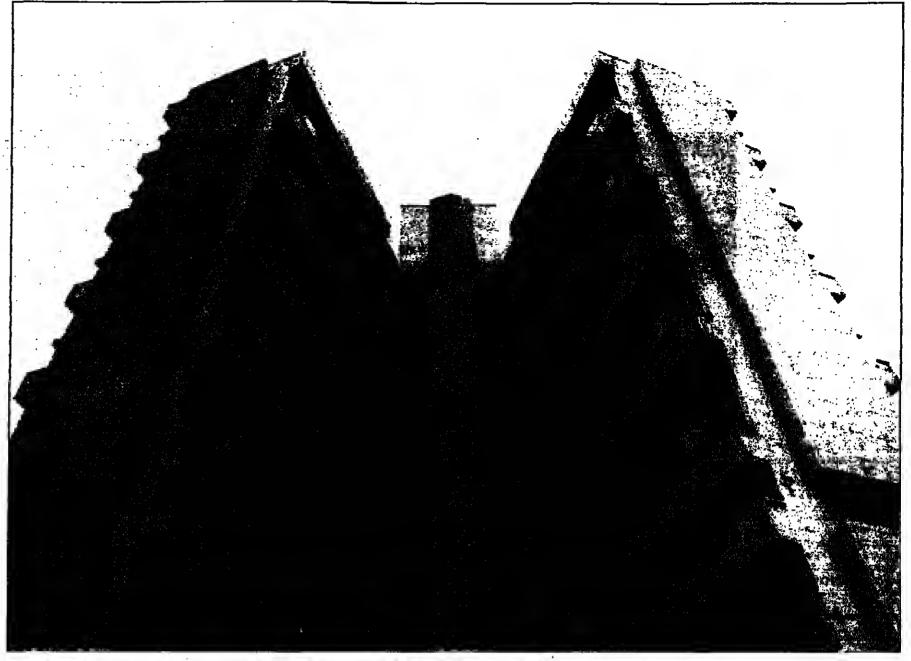
Dickon Robinson, development director of the Peabody Trust, says: "There is a dilemma involved with these interesting buildings, and it is a fundamental question: do you save them by carving them up and flogging them off, or treat them as special cases and return them to their original state?"

In 1996, Robinson and the trust attempted to do the latter by restoring Keeling House and bringing it back into use as rented accommodation with an unsuccessful bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund. "We were cautious about long-term maintenance and decided it was not acceptable to skimp on it. This made the bid too expensive as far as the fund was concerned."

Since then there have been other rescue attempts at Keeling House: none has resulted in any work on the building, that continues to decay. "It undermines the whole neighbourhood to have this disintegrating monster in the middle of it," Robinson admits. So, the future of Keeling House remains in the balance. If this attempt to save it fails, Tower Hamlets will have to apply for listed building consent to demolish it.

The situation at Isokon Flats is more optimistic. Like its illustrious original tenants, the building remains popular. It is also better locat-Hamlets borough housing officer re- ed than Keeling House, smaller sponsible for Keeling House, previ- and it would cost less to restore, £2m

Isokon also has powerful friends: architect Sîr Norman Foster has said position he has to be practical: "The it is one of his favourite buildings; design is interesting and fulfils its Lady Patty Hopkins, wife of Sir Michael - both architects - went to a recent meeting about the building's future; Lord Rogers apologised for







Tower Hamlets has funding problems with Keeling House (top), while Camden's grade I listed Isokon Flats (left), including Agatha Christie's old flat (right), has weighty friends

ern architecture conservation group DoCoMoMo UK is on the case.

DoCoMoMo UK co-ordinator Allen Cunningham admits: "Keeling House and Isokon have similar problems in that any prospect of selling or letting has to take into account has a particular problem in its lo-

been set up to rescue it; and mod- cation, whereas Isokon is in a bour- celèbre but Camden should be in by Agatha Christie. geois area and can be desirable with- aware that influential eyes are in that context."

He says Isokon is "as close to avant-garde as England will ever get" and it is worth saving for its technical innovations, modern movement architecture and comthe high cost of repairs. But Keeling munitarian social programme. "I hope it won't need to become a cause

watching what it does," be says.

Despite this, there are significant problems at Isokon. As well as their dilapidated state, the flats are very small, having been conceived as "minimum flats" designed to offer a cheap alternative to digs. A market

solution to this would be to create

larger flats by knocking down partitioo walls and sell them at a premium. But this approach is ruled out by Isokon's listing. So alternative solutions will have to be sought.

Better than most people, architect John McAslan knows what it will take to return Isokon to use. "What's there is pretty basic and in a poor state. All flats are in varying degrees of dereliction," be says. "It'll take time and be a costly job to restore it. It needs a high degree of engineering, structurally and acoustically, to make it acceptable today,"

His practice became involved at Isokon in 1995, when English Heritage pressurised Camden into doing something about its deteriorating condition. McAslan made the building watertight and created a show flat from the one formerly lived

He favours the plan to sell Isokon to a private developer who could restore it. But he is a realist, and says: "If it proves impossible to repair it in its original arrangement, then

other means will have to be sought." The Peabody Trust and Dickon Robinson have oo doubts about the answer at Isokon, but recognise it

would not produce the sort of windfall return the council would like from the building's sale. "We would want to restore it, reopen the Isobar and rent the flats and bed-sits out to people on low incomes who wanted to live there and are prepared to accept that the accommodation is not up to modern space standards."

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Councils owning modern architecture will always argue it is the very things for which they were listed - their experimental nature, innovative forms and construction techniques - that makes them too expensive to keep going.

Listing experimental modern buildings remains highly contentious; listing public sector experimental modern buildings is even more problematic. But, as the recent upgrading of Isokon to grade I shows. it is a course English Heritage and the Culture Department seem determined to pursue. But, says, Allen Cunningham: "Councils responsibilities are not purely social, they're cultural too. They are always prepared to look after a 12th century church, but it is just not sustainable to argue that only pre-20th century buildings are worth preserving."

## Cities need muscle as well as heart

The Government is setting up a new body to ensure quality modern building. But, unlike its predecessor, will it have any real power? By James Fisher

hen Culture Secretary Chris Smith announced in December his intentioo to create a new body charged with "championing good architecture", the sigh of relief from the architectural community was audible. At last the Labour Government seemed to be making good on some of the promises it made in its manifesto.

Smith said the new body -with the working title of Architecture Commission - would "combine the design review role of the Royal Fine Art Commission with an enhanced regional dimension and significant grant-giving powers". He then set up an implementation group to advise on how the new body would best fulfil its remit.

The implementation group had its first meeting this month and consists of figures well respected within the industry. Interviews for the chairman of the new body are likely to take place later this month. Names being touted for the role include the director of this year's Glasgow architecture festival Deyan Sudjic, Sunday Times architecture correspondent Hugh Pearman, Architects Journal editor Paul Finch and Architecture Foundation director Lucy Musgrave. So far so good.

But concerns are surfacing that the panel's remit does not include a discussion of the new body's role as champion for architecture, which looks like being little more than the RFAC with grant-giving bells on. The grandly titled RFAC was always caught in the invidious position of won't make much of an impact un-



sign standards without the ability to implement any. As Tom Stoppard the curriculum. power - the prerogative of the eu-

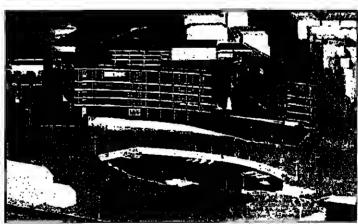
nuch throughout the ages. The property developer and architectural patron Lord Paiumbo cautions: "The substitute body baving influence but no teeth, less it is voted wider powers by Par-

charged with upholding national de- liament." He suggests that a starting point for the new body, "the very minimum", should be a wrote about the House of Lords, it proactive role in education with exercised responsibility without the aim of putting architecture on

> Lee Mallett, the director of the architectural communications specialist Wordsearch, says the new champion for architecture must continue the work done by the

barrass" developers into improving Opera House, and directly inter- should be maintained but warns their buildings. "I observed at first hand bow the RFAC performed. When [Lord St John of] Fawsley arrived as chairman, he raised the stakes and, while other bodies stood on the sidelines while a lot of tosh got built, the RFAC had a general-

ly positive effect." The RFAC under Fawsley supported the challenging designs of Zaha Hadid for the Cardiff Bay





vened to preserve the Internation-

al Terminal at Waterloo Station

from mutilation by stopping an of-

fice block being built over it. While

it was sometimes criticised as being

the personal fiefdom of Fawsley the

RFAC was never less than robust in

be characterised as anything other

than independent.

expressing its views and could not

Mallett suggests this robustness

The Royal Fine Art Commission under Lord Fawsley, left, supported Zaba Hadid's design for the Cardiff Bav opera house, above, and prevented an office block from being built over Waterloo Station's Eurostar terminal, far left. Yet it had little actual power - it is hoped that the Government will give the new body some real muscle

Glynn Griffiths months' grind.

against increasing the power of the new commission: "It would be a complete nightmare to give it the ability to stop a building because of the way it looks. That would have a huge economic knock-on."

But Lord Palumbo says: "Wider powers is the crucial thing. I always thought the weakness of the RFAC was that it didn't have real powers.

vice could be taken or ignored. The new body needs more powers and a wider remit: whether it will be given them I very much doubt." Scepticism is probably advis-

able, given the Government's mixed record on architecture. While in opposition, as in so many other areas of policy, Labour promised much. It made all the right ooises and some of the right moves - elevating Richard Rogers to the House of Lords as a Labour peer, for instance. Even after the election, the omens still seemed good: Mark Fisher, a friend of Rogers, was appointed Arts Minister with the responsibility for delivering the Government's architecture policy. This policy was expected to include a commitment to quality design for all gov-

ernment buildings. The good news for architects continued with the creation of the Urban Task Force, chaired by Lord Rogers, to look at the vexed problem of housing. But on the architecture policy, everything went quiet until last August's Cabinet reshuffle when Mark Fisher lost his job, with oo policy to show for 15

If the Government wants to be a reforming administration, it should give the champion for architecture real muscle, allowing it to work both inside government and in the private sector. Grant-giving and design review should be part of the new

body's work, not its only job. It should have a wider-ranging brief, taking in Lottery projects, education initiatives, research and all government-funded buildings. This might not quite amount to a It was an advisory body and its ad-policy but it would get close to it.

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# In Shakespeare's shadow | Eager to please

It's time to stop using Shakespeare as a stick to beat Ben Jonson. The RSC open a new production next week of his masterly comedy Volpone and Paul Taylor asks why critics consistently get him wrong

hose of us who believe that Ben Jonson's Volpone is the greatest non-Shakespearean, non-romantic comedy in the language have the chance to put that perception to the test once again when Lindsay Posner's new RSC production opens at Stratford next week. Even the bare central idea of this Jacobean classic brings an appreciative smile to the lips: a Venetian magnifico, assisted by his clever parasite, pretends to be mortally ill as part of a scam to ensure a stream of visits from greedy legacyhunters, who, laden with glittering bribes, fall over each other in the bope of heing made his heir.

The extent to which this masterpiece is so much more than that bare idea continues to be underestimated both in the theatre and by critics. It's par for the course, perhaps, that a newspaper hack, responding to Matthew Warchus's recent National Theatre staging, should pontificate in serene error that one must "always beware of a play that sets up its central joke (in this case that Volpone will do anything, go anywhere, sell anyone for treasure) early and then sticks to it". It is more disconcerting when a similar insensitivity is displayed by a big-shot back of academe.

Strenuously hyped but rather less than epoch-making, Harold Bloom's new book, Shakespeare: The Invention of the Human, obstinately indulges in the bankrupt game of using the Bard as a stick for beating Jonson. That practice looks particularly silly in view of the fact that with Laurence Boswell's Ingenious Notting Hill Carnival update of Bartholomew Fair running at the Young Vic, the RSC is now championing Ben Jonson in both wings of its operation. Bloom slightingly refers to the latter's characters as "satiric ideograms", conceptbearing wind-up toys, clockwork obsessions, Volpone and his parasite, Mosca, may, like the legacy hunters, have names that associate them with a bestiary rather than with human society ("fox" ,"fly" etc), but the hrilliance of the play quite apart from the hilarity of the situations Jonson engineers – lies in the intricately layered kinky psy- in wealth. It's for the intellectual kick hero and sidekick; it also lies in the way the comedy homes in on the scam when it has already been running for three years, creating boredoms and tensions in the trickster's household that the wily par-

asite can exploit for his own ends. In his imaginative interest in the grotesque and in driven cupidity, Jonson has strong affinities with a strand of 19th-century Russian drama. Alexander Ostrovsky's



With Laurence Boswell's update of 'Bartholomew Fair' at the Young Vic, above, the RSC is championing Jonson in both Stratford and London

famously banned A Family Affair also features a case where voracious egotism overreaches itself and where an employee-worm turns. Its plot charts how a clerk harnesses his master's greed to his own advantage. By helping him feign bankruptcy so as to defraud creditors, the clerk manages to swindle the boss of all his tangible assets. Actually, though, it is the differences between Jonson's and Ostrovsky's worlds that prove revealing.

Unlike the bourgeois personnel in the Russian play. Volpone has no need of extra money: he is rolling s in his arch better and worse than his tunnelvisioned dupes. Besides, in the Ostrovsky, there is a normative soscaffolding of Venetian law and gova man, by corrupt officers, all with an eye on the main chance. The two virtuous characters are righteously simple-minded and self-deceived. the literacy cultivation of the Venet-

neglected to read the finest postwar Jonson scholars - Anne Barton, John Creaser and Ian Donaldson and so is dead to those fascinating oscillations in the dramatist between an impulse to classical severity and a temperamental love of the unruly and grotesque. Lindsay Posner's distinguished CV bristles with more productions of new plays than of classical revivals. He was. for example, the first British director to stage Arlel Dorfman's chilling probe into the post-totalitarian psyche. Death and the Maiden, and he is a keen champion of the German repertoire, ancient and modern. con-game, which makes him both RSC and he clearly brings to the his growing horedom with this preparation both a fresh eye and an appetite for historical research. Ask him about a character like cial structure. In the Jonson, the Lady Would-Be, the English tourist Michael Jackson, views it the other abroad with her absurd pretenerament is all askew - manned to sions to learning and her fatal tendency to accuse the wrong people of being courtesans, and Posner

were, apparently, highly erudite creatures, since one of the expected stages of seduction was the entertainment of the client with discussion of literature and music-rather as if the denizens of today's Shepherd Market were to beguile customers with hright apercus about The Satanic Verses or the latest Andrew Lloyd-Webber hefore getting down to husiness.

Contemporary parallels crop up in Posner's talk, too. Most directors and critics see it as just an irksome penalty of Volpone's scam that he has to spend so much time stuck in bed being spuriously slavered over stifling routine as the beginning of the end. Posner, invoking such modern recluses as John Paul Getty and way round. This production will imply that, at some deep level, the con game is Volpone's elaborate rationalisation of the terror of going treats you to a learned low-down on out. Posner points to the cunning with which Mosca dangles the

Celia - a tactical piece of temptation which lures his master from the stagnant safety of his blasphemous bedroom and into the first panicky realisation that neither he nor his scam is immortal.

There have been incisive recent stagings of the piece. But, invariably, something has either gone missing (as when Nicholas Hytner excised the Would-Bes from his coruscating Almeida production) or been intrusively added (as when Matthew Warchus at the National tacked on a prologue which, affecting to admit us to the hero's nightmares, showed him being pursued through a swirl d rooms by pred black-caped legacy hunters.

I suggested to Posner that this Jacobean prequel had the effect of pre-empting the play, establishing in one fell swoop that insecurity in the hero which Jonson lets seep out much more subtly. He agreed and made the further point that this febrile dumbshow implied that Volpone has a conscience which this director begs leave to doubt. So what

about? Posner thinks his dream world would be full of images of his own flesh rotting. It's a terror of death, he believes, that has given Volpone his fetish for hard, spiritless, sterile gold, a glittering but illusory counterweight to a world of sleaze, shit, blood and mortality.

So, a masterpiece that brilliantly culminates in two courtroom scenes - the first a false, the second a genuine climax - still awaits a production that does it full justice. Will this be the one? With his background in new plays, which receive a standard four weeks' rehearsal at the Royal Court, Posner is luxuriating in the the RSC. That timespan has proved a Godsend, since early in the rehearsal process the cast was hit hy chicken-pox. Now, though, they are fighting fit and raring to demonstrate that, compared with the warped psychological diseases they have to inhabit in this great comedy, mere chicken-pox is way down on the sickness scale.

would the bero have nightmares RSC Stratford: 01789 295623

CABARET

I CAN see Michael Feinstein aged about nine. To the delight of his mother (at least) he must have been a piano prodigy, doing songs from the shows at weddings and bermitzvahs. At my barmitzvah I wore a velvet jacket (it was the Seventies.) so imagine my surprise when Feinstein walked on to the vast Barbican stage wearing the very same item.

Okay, I'm exaggerating, but he was sporting something suspiciously similar, topped off with a smile as permanent as the creases in his lounge-suit trousers. But then that's what Feinstein is: an upmarket lounge act. Sorry, I got that wrong. Michael Feinstein is an acclaimed contemporary pop vocal stylist. At least, that's what the programme says, on the same page as an advertisement for the Michael Feinstein Appreciation Society. He has made a formidable career as a matchless archivist performer of The Great American Songbook. After six years as Ira Gershwin's amanuensis, he began performing trunkloads of material, and his incredibly extensive repertoire in. cludes all the Tin Pan Alley greats.

He has a treasure trove of littleknown gems at his fingertips. Fancy bearing Johnny Mercer's complete lyrics to "Too Marvellous for Words"? Feinstein's your man. Fancy a swift spin through the witty, uptempo "Rhode Island is Famous For You", a smart, States-wide listsong including the line "Pencils come from Pennsylvania/ Vests from Vest Virginia..."? He'll do it. The problem is just how he does it.

On this occasion, he and his grand piano were surrounded by a six-piece band playing fit to bust. Unfortunately, the sound mix was so bass-bound that his piano-playing could often barely be heard. He does his own arrangements, cunningly slipping no less than 15 Gershwin melodies into the accompaniment to "Embraceable You". All very clever, but beneath the skill and the sentimentality there's remarkahly little happening. His high baritone voice is unyielding and

curiously inexpressive. There are cocktail planists the world over however who would chop off their limbs for his keyboard skills. At two points he asks for requests, producing on-the-spot medleys with lush accompaniments full of Gershwin-style chromatic hararpeggios. It's the strongest part of the act, the tension dropping away as he thinks his way through unrehearsed music. Elsewhere, you wish he'd calm down. When someone asked for "C'est Si Bon" - made famous by Eartha Kitt - he launched into a purring impersonation. Whatever he's on, be should lower the dosage. At some level, he's still a kid - all too eager to please.

DAVID BENEDICT

1.0 72/2

## The ghost in the machinery

Harold Bloom has apparently ian prostitute in this period. They prospect of defiling the virtuous

THE GHOST of Old Hamlet comes in sented as a Chorus of the inhabitants all shapes and sizes. In Richard Evre's memorable Royal Court staging, the revenant spook emerged, in a gutteral blast, from the cellarage of his son's innards. He didn't exist as an external reality, but as a voice and an imperative inside his heir. I've even seen a Japanese production in which the ghost appeared as a blue lambent flame, darting and teasing like an eschatological Tinkerbell.

For puzzling strangeness, though, the palm must go to the treatment dreamt up by Christopher Geelan's otherwise admirably plain, honest and, therefore, compelling Theatre Unlimited production now playing at Greenwich. Here the ghost is pre-

of Elsinore (Claudius, Gertrude, Polonius etc), its voice shifting from one section to another. This approach certainly makes Hamlet's closet scene with Gertrude look a mite overcrowded, and there's none of the wringing pathos that comes from the ghost's closeness to his un-

witting former wife. It may he that I have failed to follow the emotional logic of this interpretation, but, given that we have it on impartial authority that old Hamlet was a most singular man, it seems counterproductive to convey him as though he were the social product of his posterity. A tall lean of this increasingly rare skill, Wickfigure, awkwardly buttoned into a

THEATRE

HAMLET GREENWICH THEATRE LONDON

dark modern suit, and given to popping on a pair of heavy framed specs whenever he adopts his whimsically barbed antic disposition, Ru-

pert Wickham's Hamlet is wonderfully fresh and involving. Unlike the personnel of a certain production of Macbeth currently in the West End, Geelan's cast know their way round the shifting sonic archi-

intellectual and sardonic alternative joyable and educative experience to comedian, can really engage you in the life of Hamlet's mind.

Theatre Unlimited have a specific remit to reach out to schools and community groups and while they are here, some 19 schools will be performing experimental re-workings of Hamlet under their aegis. The easy thing would have been to create, within budgetary constraints, a production which pander ed to the prejudices of our predominantly visual culture. Instead, the company have had the courage to mount a version in which, as the overwhelmingly teenage audience at the opening night proved, you hang on to every word. A much more stretching, en-

be reminded why, in A Midsummer prospect of the mechanical's amateur dramatics with the now foreignsounding remark: "I will hear that play." This Hamlet may have its rough and ready aspects and one or two moments where it fails to attend to the implications of the story (would the cagey Claudius really give audience to Rosencrantz and Guildenstern and Polonius while in

the dead-giveaway posture of praying, or trying to, in the chapel?) But - and this is no mean achievement - it makes you hear this masterpiece as if for the first time.



PAUL TAYLOR Wickham enthralls the teenage audiences

#### THIS WAS THE WEEK THAT WAS

Today On this day in 1982 the big theatrical event was not on stage but in court, when Michael Bogdanov went on trial on a criminal charge of directing the allegedly indecent The Romans in Britain. Howard Brenton's play featuring a male rape had been denounced by the drama critic Mary Whitebouse, but the brave Attorney-General stopped the trial - and the fun - next day.

Tomorrow In 1898 artist Aubrey Beardsley came to his own fin de siècle, dying the way a leading Decadent and Yellow Book illustrator would want to go: of TB in France. "Yes, We Have No No Bananas" was published in 1923; some said the song owed its tune to the Hallelujah Chorus. Try it in the bath.

**Wednesday** In a dreadful



warning to whoever succeeds Ted Hughes, Poet Laureate Colley Cibber was summoned to court by Captain Hercules Vinegar (alias novelist Henry Fielding) on a charge of murder of the Englisb language.

Thursday Was Ivan so Terrible? Probably. He died in 1584, allegedly from sorrow after killing his son, but to his credit inspired the film epic of Eisenstein the Terribly Good.

Friday Edgar Rice Burroughs died in 1950; as well as creating Tarzan, the aristocratic apeman, he wrote The Chessmen of Mars, The Wizard of Venus and a sequence of novels set inside a hollow Earth.

Saturday In 1917 Vera Lynn was born as the less harmonious-sounding Vera Welch; the "Forces Sweetheart" hit the charts with "We'll Meet Again" and "White Cliffs of Dover", neither of which, oddly enough, have been re-issued in a drum'n'bass remix.

Sunday In 1969 John Lennon and Yoko Ono gave peace a chance by staying in bed; on honeymoon at the Amsterdam Hilton they staged their "Beds in Peace" demonstration.

JONATHAN SALE

## A green and pleasant city

IF PERCY Thrower were still with us, his favourite YBA would be Anva Gallaccio. Known for her monumental installations of natural matter left to decay - bundreds of oranges, 10,000 roses, chains of red gerberas and 34 tons of ice - the artist has of late turned to more green-fingered projects. She transformed the lawn outside London's Serpentine Gallery in 1997, planting wild flowers and vegetables in all the bare patches. Now though, in Glasgow, Gallaccio is engaged in a spot of rather more dramatic con-

tainer gardening. Part of a series of one-off projects commissioned by Tramway in found spaces across the city, while the venue is closed for redevelopment, Glaschu is housed in a grand, Victorian huilding in the final stages of renovation to its former splendour. In one high-ceilinged room, the

VISUAL ARTS ANYA GALLACCIO: GLASCHU THE OLD COURT HOUSE

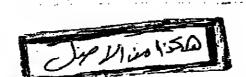
**GLASGOW** artist has designed and planted a liv-ing carpet of tiny plants and flowers in a temporary concrete floor. Initially inspired by the way weeds and hushes grow through the roofs and windows of derelict buildings, Gallaccio took her design from the archives of Glasgow's Templeton Carpet Factory. The work takes its title from the Gaelic word for Glasgow, Glaschu, meaning "dear, green place", playing on the city's histor-

ical and contemporary identity. The design and the building refer back to Glasgow's great days as second city of the Empire (the building was lavishly built using money from the tobacco trade), while the

contrast of concrete to vulnerablethe city in the 1960s. There is an autobiographical aspect to the work too, in that Gallaccio was born in Glasgow, but her family moved to London when she was a toddler. It is both an emotional and slightly sentimental response to this experience, as the title suggests, and a more distanced reflection on the idea of origin and putting down roots. The concrete, the unfinished restoration work and the chill air in the installation space undercut any cosy, rose-tinted perspective.

Glaschu was conceived as a green line-drawing to be seen from a balcony above but, owing to safety problems in the venue, this isn't possible. This is a pity, as the effect of the work as a whole is slightly diminished by that lack of an overview.

That said, looking at the plants looking greenery harks back to the and lines of green life through the unsympathetic redevelopment of concrete around your feet brings other pleasures. The high-ceilings are put into bizarre relief by these tiny signs of life; you feel simultaneously dwarfed by the space and a clumsy giant compared to the plants. Best of all is the feeling of stumbling across a secret garden in the middle of the city, not some hazy, sundrenched paradise - this is, after all, Glasgow, where the daffodils aren't out yet - but a quiet corner where past, present and future mingle in unexpected ways. In a city renowned for contrasts - its hard men, friendly people, poverty, architectural riches, concrete housing and muchloved dear, green places – Gallactio's Glaschu makes perfect sense.



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The Independent 15 March 1999

NETWORK



Silicon Graphics Onyx workstations allow NYSE staff to navigate through continuously updated trading information in real time and in 3D

# Wall Street goes 3D

The New York Stock Exchange adds a new dimension to dealing. By Stephen McLaren

Iyou are still uncomfortable with the idea of fucre being less about paper and more about electronic pulses criss-crossing the financial computer networks of the world, then don't think about visiting the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) in the near future. Last week, after three years of

development, the world's largest equities market - and the biggest name in Wall Street, booted up the first-ever 3D virtual trading floor. This meant that a real-time model of all the business currently taking place was near instantaneously evoked in a graph-heavy Technicolor landscape projected on to a 7ft square video wall. The business of graphically representing bow 800 million shares a day are traded was under way.

The "3D Trading Floor" (3DTF) uses state-of-the-art technology, including flat-screen plasma monitors and Silicon Graphics Onyx workstations to allow stock exchange staff to navigate through continuously updated trading information in real time and in

Although the installation is an impressive piece of eye candy and will be used as a telegenic backdrop for television news reports, the 3DTF is not a toy, it fulfils some key objectives for the operations staff at the stock exchange.

In the first instance, its composite modelling of every trade into an ever-fluctuating series of graphs quickly enables staff to monitor how busy the networks are and to identify possible stress points. If the market is heading towards a crash or the volume of trade is overloadmodel's real-time image will show where the danger is.

And, with recent global financial events demonstrating that bouts of market instability currently seem endemic, the 3DTF provides a powerful analytical tool.

"After close of day we simulate market failure. We're continually verifying the model against other sources of the same data to make sure that it is representing those exceptional conditions correctly, says Anne Allen, whose role, as the senior vice-president responsible for floor operations, is to ensure that the stock market runs smoothly

Since the data and the model are continuously backed-up, operations staff can travel back and forth in time within the model to examine in reater detail how it was that certain situations arose. Combine that with the ability to zoom in with ever greater detail down to the level of being traded, then system events, such as the rush to purchase a cer-

can be investigated retrospectively. Wall Street has a tradition of embracing cutting edge information technology. From the stock ticker of 1867 and the installation of telephones on the trading floor in 1878 to the wireless handsets of the 1990s, the NYSE has always recog-

ing the computer servers, the nised that the trading of stock is essentially an information exchange and that, therefore, it benefits from technologies which make it more transparent and reliable. So now, with the 3DTE users can visually

> Will the talents of traders change as they learn to surf the 3D world in search of a bargain trade?

surf the data world that, at its core,

the stock exchange essentially is. However, are people properly equipped to immerse themselves in such a dynamic 3D model? "We've spent a lot of time on usablity,"

"If you don't do the 3D well or if individual stocks and how they are you do the animation badly, you can really upset users when they look at the screen because it can almost tain stock based on insider trading, make you feel sea-sick. It can also

be unsettling if you are flying through space that isn't normal space to fly through, or if you are more crowded as TV news anchors doing it too fast or too abruptly."

Creating such data-rich yet

instantly pavigable virtual spaces.

isn't an established husiness, so who are the designers? Video game developers? Television studios? No -a good old-fashioned architecture practice is behind the design of the 3DTF. Hani Rashid, the co-founder of Asymptote, based in Manhattan, was employed by the NYSE to design the 3DTF. Although it has done the bricks and mortar thing before, Asymptote specialises in designing elaborate information spaces that essentially exist inside a computer's circuitry and come to

life through the eyes of users. At the NYSE Asymptote built both the 3D world and its surrounding operational area, which, with its metal-clad walls, orbiting electronic message board and curved blue glass walls, looks like a posh Sega World

"The area that we redesigned and built for the exchange brings to reality our idea of incorporating and fusing real-time, first reality environments with virtual architectures," Rashid says. "This is the area that we are concentrating on and pursuing as an architectural

firm." Rashid says. In its early days, the 3DTF is running as a barely inhabited systems in for number-crunching nirvana.

administration application, but soon the virtual landscape will become and Wall Street superstars are superimposed inside the model using fixed cameras and blue-screen backgrounds. Rashid wants eventually to add extra realism by pro-

viding virtual reality headsets. So what about the traders themselves, who a decade ago operated effectively as long as they had a constant supply of sharpened pencils? Could they, like William Gibson's "data-jockeys" in the novel Neuromoncer, become the new stars of this world, and will their skills change as they learn to surf the 3D world in search of a bargain trade?

"We're looking at this almost as a living laboratory, and, as people are looking and getting familiar with it, it seems there will be a likely transfer of the technology to the trading arena," says Ms Allen. "All the instincts and psyche that make a trader a good trader will be retained. What we're doing is simply

improving the tools. "Now the computer takes in all the data and synthesises it for you and presents it in clear and intuitive ways that people can then use to make their trading decision"

If the number of mini-crashes and booms we've seen this year is any indication of what's to come, then those SGI Onyx supercomputers are

## The ABC of XML

TALES OF Silicon Valley: My wife, Linda, and I are out on our morning jog with the dog. We follow a route that goes along Sand Hill Road, where venture capital firms abound.

Linda's thinking out loud about starting a new company She thinks there's an opportunity to use the Web to connect trusinesses to each other I agree, and point out that a lot of companies have sprung up to address this space, including a Netscape venture called Actra.

A lot of companies see an opportunity to connect businesses to each other more efficiently than is the case today. They're doing things like writing software to connect dissimilar systems securely over the Internet. Many are using a markup language called XML to do it.

What's XML?" asks the spouse, "Extensible Markup Language," I say. "Is it like HTML?" she asks. I warm up to one of my famous tutorials; it's not often that I know something my wife doesn't. Linda knows that HTML, or Hypertext Markup Language, is a set of tags that tell Web browsers bow to present pages of information.

Extensible Markup Language is a system for tagging text, just like HTML. The difference is that the user gets to say what the tags are. 'For example," I say, seeing an opportunity to amuse ber and perhaps curry favour. "I can define "Linda Markup Language", or LML, in which I will define three tags: "friend", "lover" and "wife". Since software will be reading the tags, I need a way to say when the tag starts and stops.

In HTML, one indicates the start of something, say boldface, with the notation <B>. and the end with a tag that's similar but for a preceding slash, </B>.'

All the while I'm drawing tags in the air while juggling the dog's lead. The spouse is looking on with amusement, as I'm cutting a ridiculous figure. Fortunately, we pretty much have Menlo Park to ourselves. "XML works the same way,

substituting my self-defined tags. So, using my LML example, I could write <friend><lover><wife> Linda</wife></lover> </friend>.

"In an XML application, the reader might just see the name Linda, perhaps with some small icons or other indications that there are tags attached. But I could also tell the software to display hearts when the "lover" tag appears, or add a smiling graphic

for "friend". "So what's it good for?" asks the ever-practical Linda. "Well, two incompatible systems could each export



CHRIS GULKER

It's not often that I know something that my wife doesn't

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records, like invoices or purchase orders, to a common XML format that defined things like part number, price and shipping address. Systems like that can already export to each other's formats, but it's a one-off deal, as every company configures systems a little differently. With a common format, it makes it easy to connect as vendors come and go, and software changes."

"Is anyone actually using it?" she asks. "Well, there are things like MathML, or Math Markup

Language, and CML Chemistry Markup Language. "Of course, I'm interested in ICE, for Internet Content Exchange, and NML, or News Markup Language, two other specs that are knocking around. In NML, the idea is to mark things up for what they are, such as "headline", rather than how they should look. That way a simple tag translator could automatically convert, say, a news story from one website to the style of a

different publisher, without having to involve a human to insert formatting tags. "So the story could go into print as easily as on the Web, since computer layout programs use tags to mark text, too. In the future, all Web content may be in XML, and the browser will be presented with the story, a style sheet

Style Language, and that will be it. Instant publishing!" The spouse falls silent for a while. "I'm still thinking of starting a business-tobusiness company."

written in XSL, or Extensible

Well, so much for currying favour not to mention my tutorial. That morning she had me apply for the domain name for her new enterprise. By 2pm she had her first client and was booking revenue before the domain name came through.

This could be real trouble Who ever heard of a profitable Internet start-up? No one will touch her stock offering if she's profitable. Time for another tutorial, I think

cg@gulker.com

# Gordon proves a real IT boy

Last week's Budget should give a boost to Britain's hi-tech companies. By Stephen Pritchard

The new centres will provide

which will attract tax breaks

ual learning accounts. The cen-

tres will also be able to lend

computers out to members of

the public. Computers and soft-

ware should be as reactily avail-

century", the Chancellor said.

GORDON BROWN'S new 10p income tax rate has dominated the headlines, but last week's Budget was good news for the Budget was good The Chancellor announced a series of measures that should boost investment in technology-led firms, increase access to IT training and skills, and improve the climate for e-commerce in the UK.

The Government's new Small Business Service will, the Chancellor said, provide advice and assistance to small firms on e-commerce. Plans for ship, and tax breaks for entrepreneurs and for venture capitalists who invest in smaller tirms, are also designed with the technology sector in mind. Mr Brown's team was clearly inspired by the US experience, where small start-ups in the computing and technology sectors have gone on to become

The Budget's greatest impact, though, should be on comtechnology in schools and hom-



wider employee share owner- Gordon Brown: inspired by the US experience

es. The Government is propos- street and in Internet cases. ing to set up a network of a thousand computer learning training courses in IT skills, centres, "one for every community in Britain", according to and subsidies via new, individ-Mr Brown. The exact details of the scheme have not been announced, but some of the new centres will be in conventional locations, such as schools and libraries. The Government, though, is considering a more nter skills and the take-up of adventurous approach, and The total cost of the Budget's other centres will be on the high technology measures comes

the whole of Britain for the information age". The Government is also ex-

panding its scheme to provide school teachers with laptop computers for use at home. Two years ago, 1,000 teachers were lent machines as part of a trial. Under the Budget proposals, an extra 20,000 teachers will be able to join the scheme. For IT companies, the short-

to £500m; the aim is to equip

age of skilled recruits is one of the most serious challenges. The best way to avoid a skills shortage is to increase the use of IT in schools, and to encourge life-long learning, especially in technology, for adults. "The key to developing these

skills lies in ensuring that teachers are comfortable with computers," agrees David Heath, education business unit manager at Compaq. "Lifelong learning can only

be achieved through investment, and these measures will able "as library books in the last help to ensure that relevant competencies and skills are developed within education." Potentially even more far-

reaching was Gordon Brown's announcement that companies will be able to lend computers to their staff, free of tax. Similar schemes in other European countries have been extremely popular, with the take-up

greatly exceeding expectations. In Sweden, Hewlett-Packard took part in a programme to supply shipwrights and metalworkers with PCs, printers, scanners and access to the Net. In six months, 58,000 mainly blue-collar workers had taken up the offer. HP estimates that computer sales have increased by 40 per cent in Sweden as a result of the tax breaks. "A little help from government can have a dramatic impact." explains Tina Green. UK corporate communications

manager at HP "When these programmes work they offer something for everyone. Business and government get a skilled workforce, and employees get up-to-date technology as an investment in their career and an opportunity to support their children's education," she says.

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fact, it's just like being at wark, anly better.

### MY TECHNOLOGY



Simon Block with his Olivetti laptop, Psion, Sony tape recorder – and pencil and notebook

# Playwright stuff

Pencil and PC both have a role in Simon Block's work

gral to how I write. It is a step-by-step process. Usually, I write a first draft in pencil, in a notebook, so that I can take the pad around with me and work wherever I am. It times. The Psion is a great wouldn't he very easy to lug a computer around. I also need to read over what I have written, and I think it is easier to read from paper.

But the appeal of this first stage is that I think you write better on paper. There is something about putting the words down on the page; perhaps it is because part of your character - and therefore your fictional characters - can be seen in your handwriting. It's closer to your style, to your thoughts. And I can certainly write freehand

almost as fast as I think. When I have got as close as

the computer very useful: it is the perfect tool for editing and tightening copy. I can also transfer the disk to my Psion, and am therefore able to have a draft of a play with me at all advance, mostly because the 5 almost identical to the normal keyboard, and the keys are a decent size. It is very useful during production - for in-

version printed. I also use a Dictaphone, an underrated tool, I feel. Perhaps I appreciate the Dictaphone because I'm comfortable using it in public. I once workmoney on reference books. would send me to the bookshop

script can be made and the new

echnology is inte- my laptop. This is when I find Dictaphone. So, you see, it is an essential recording device!

> But seriously, because, for me, writing takes place in my head mostly, the foremost act is getting it recorded in some form or another. That is the most important part, then you move on to making it as Series bas a keyboard that is accessible as possible during the rewriting process.

> Because I use the Dictaphone and Psion as well as pen and paper, I don't have to be stance, quick changes to the stuck in one place when I write. Thoughts are the most important part of writing, and I need to be able to record them, whether I am at a café or working in the bedroom when my wife is asleep.

Through plenty of experi-ence, I have realised the abed for a very poor company ence, I have realised the ab-which, instead of spending solute necessity of getting thoughts down before they are forgotten. And I have developed possible to the thoughts in my where I would have to read the a capacity to work almost head, I transfer the notes on to relevant pages out loud into a anywhere. Certain pieces of

technology mean that this can be done with more ease.

But ease is not the deciding factor. For instance, I wouldn't use the software which types automatically from speech. It is practical, but creatively it could be a nightmare. You run the risk of useless talk.

Also, it is worth noting that when you see words on a computer screen, they look better. An illusion is created when words appear on a computer it makes them look smart. Again, this is why I write the first draft with pencil: it is more obvious if the words don't work.

Simon Block is currently under commission to the Royal National Theatre. His play, No Exp. Req'd', is at Hampstead Theatre, north London, until 25 March (0171-722 9301).

> INTERVIEW BY JENNIFER RODGER

# Content is the king

YOU WOULD think it was obvious: people come to the

Web to get content. Whether it is news, stock reports, football scores or directions across town, it's about the content. Yet looking around at the Web you would imagine people were coming for the mindblowing experience of the navigation or to drool over the exquisite banner ads. Then there are the sites of endless lists of links that point to sites made up of yet more lists of links. At times it seems as if there is a teaspoon of content in an

ocean of websites. Even the best design work can't make up for a lack of good content. While great design cannot overcome poor content, bad design can obscure even the hest content.

Websites without good content are like hutterflies without a body; they may have a beautiful mode of transportation, but they still won't get anywhere. If the interface designer has done his or her job well, then the interface should be virtually invisible to the visitor and the content should be the thing that shines through.

But how do you make sure that you have good content presented in a useful manner? Here are a few things that I consider.

integrated fashion. Know what the content is: Most people think of cortent as being the text that they read on the

WEB DESIGN



CRANFORD **TEAGUE** 

screen, but content for the

Weh is so much more. The content of a site gives information that visitors are looking for to help them understand a concept, to help them answer a question or to help them solve a problem. That will not only include the written word but may also

include photos, illustrations,

video and audio. It can even

include software programs

that the visitor interacts with to gain information. Before yon start to design your site, you should clearly define the information that will be presented and how different pieces of information work together. In addition, all the various forms of content

Have something to say or show: This will depend on

supporting the information

you want to convey in an

should work together,

many factors, the most important being the type of site you are creating. If it's your own home page, you need to tell your own story. If you are designing a site for a corporation, the content will more than likely be given to you. The important thing is that what you have to say is meaningful to your intended audience. People know when they are reading fluff and will instantly shut down their minds to such "filler" content. Once that happens,

Target your audience: Regardless of the source of the content, you should always keep in mind what your audience will want to view. To do that you have to know your visitor.

you have lost them for good.

Maximise the content display area: Remember that the content is the star of the show. On so many sites, much of the screen space is taken up by logos. navigation, banner ads and other clutter, and content is reduced to an area the size of a postage stamp.

Set the content width: Wait a minute, didn't I just say maximise the content display area? While you should allow the overall content display area to take up as much screen space as possible, there are certain limiting factors - especially in terms of the width of the content. The human eye is

best built for the scanning of information, and the longer the horizontal distance a viewer has to scan, the harder scanning becomes. This is especially true when scanning text.

You will notice that newspapers set their columns to a relatively narrow width. This allows readers quickly to scan a news story to find the salient points. The comfortable reading width of text is based on the size of the font being used. Larger fonts allow you to have longer widths. Break textual content into fixed width columns to make them easier to read and set your font size using the font tag, or better yet, Cascading Style Sheets (http://www. independent.co.uk/net/98040 7ne/story8.html).

Explain your links: Always let the visitor know where a link will take them. Studies show that one of the chief complaints of website visitors is that they get lost in links and are thus not able to find the content they are seeking. Avoid this problem by including a brief explanation of where visitors will be taken when they select a particular link. The more specific you are about where the link is going, the less confused your visitor will be.

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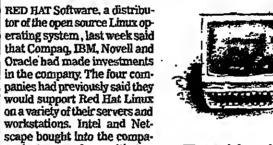
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## **BYTES**



ny last year along with two "We were informed by a cusventure capital companies. tomer that the chip ID was present in the mobile Pentium II Linux, which boasts greater stability and lower system reprocessor in mobile module form," George Alfs, an Intel quirements than Windows NT on networks and servers, has spokesman, said. about 10 million users at pre-

"The serial number circuitry was included to test the sent. An internal memo at Microsoft last year identified manufacturing process. Although the circuit was suppos-Linux as a growing rival in the operating systems market. ed to be switched off before the processors shipped, some left

the factory with it still enabled. INTEL'S CONTROVERSIAL ser-"These slipped through. We ial number identification techhad no intention to turn this on nology is not unique to the for the Pentium II. The proces-Pentium III processor. The company said last week that an early version had been built into

sor serial number is only a Pentium III feature," Alfs said. Meanwhile, consumer and some mobile versions of its privacy groups in the United States continued to lobby the

launch a full investigation of the serial number technology and its implications for privacy "We're seeking an injunction on the chip itself and an investigation of the safest way for PC manufacturers to disable the chip," Ari Schwartz, a policy analyst at the Center for Democ-

> MICROSOFT HAS asked the US Department of Justice (DoJ) to investigate possible antitrust practices by US airline companies. MSN Expedia, Microsoft's web-based travel service, and other online travel agents are jointly filing a complaint through three trade associations, the Interactive Travel Services Associations, the American Society of Travel Agents.

racy and Technology, said.

and the Coalition for Travel Industry Parity. Although only 2 per cent of bookings are currently performed online, a Jupiter Communications study suggests

that figure will be 60 per cent

Federal Trade Commission to by 2002. Travel agents are concerned that airline companies are determined to drive customers direct to their own websites, rather than to travel agents' sites.

At present airlines offer travel agents lower commissions and fees for tickets sold via the web, and are thought to be planning to offer extra services that travel agents traditionally supply such as car hire and accommodation reservations.

**LUCENT TECHNOLOGIES last** week announced a new laser, the WaveStar 40G Express, that can carry four times more data than existing lasers and opens up prospects of faster telecommunications and Internet access. MCI WorldCom will test the first commercial system capable of delivering 40 gigahits per second over a single wavelength on a single fibre optic cable. The laser transmits the equivalent of 500,000 simultaneous phone calls on a single wavelength.

#### University for Industry

Pentium II processors.

#### Expressions of Interest to become a Qualified Supplier to the University for Industry for the Provision of Learning Material

Expressions of interest are invited from organisations wishing to become Qualified Suppliers to the University for Industry (UfI) for the provision of open and distance learning materials.

The Ufl is at the heart of the UK Government's vision for Lifelong Learning. The Ufl has two strategic objectives to stimulate demand for lifelong learning, and to promote the availability of and access to high quality and innovative learning, particularly through the use of information and communications technologies.

As part of the process for achieving these objectives the Uff will broker the provision of learning materials:

- by endorsing materials which already meet its learning quality criteria
- by enhancing other materials so that they meet its criteria and then endorsing
- by commissioning the development of new material where there is a lack of suitable provision.

The Ufl criteria are available on our website.

A qualified supplier model will be used for all categories of material. There will be two categories of qualified

- companies, institutions, organisations or consortia which have (or are developing) material which they wish to offer for endorsement.
- companies, institutions, organisations or consortia which are capable of undertaking the development of material commissioned to a Uff specification.

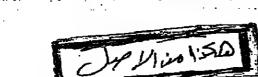
All Ufl endorsed material will be made available through a national network of learning centres.

Current priority areas are all levels of: information and communications technologies, basic skills, small and medium sized enterprises (for example in the areas of management development, financial management, marketing, etc.), and the specific sectors of automotive components, multi-media, environmental technology and services, and distributive and retail trades.

Further details, including how to register an interest and the information which Uff will require, can be found on our website at http://www.lifelonglearning.co.uk/ufi.

For queries which cannot be answered by the information on the website please enquire via email at qs.ufi@mcmail.com or by fax on 0114 270 0034.

The deadline for receipt of expressions of interest is 12 April 1999.







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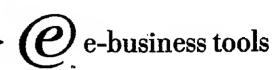
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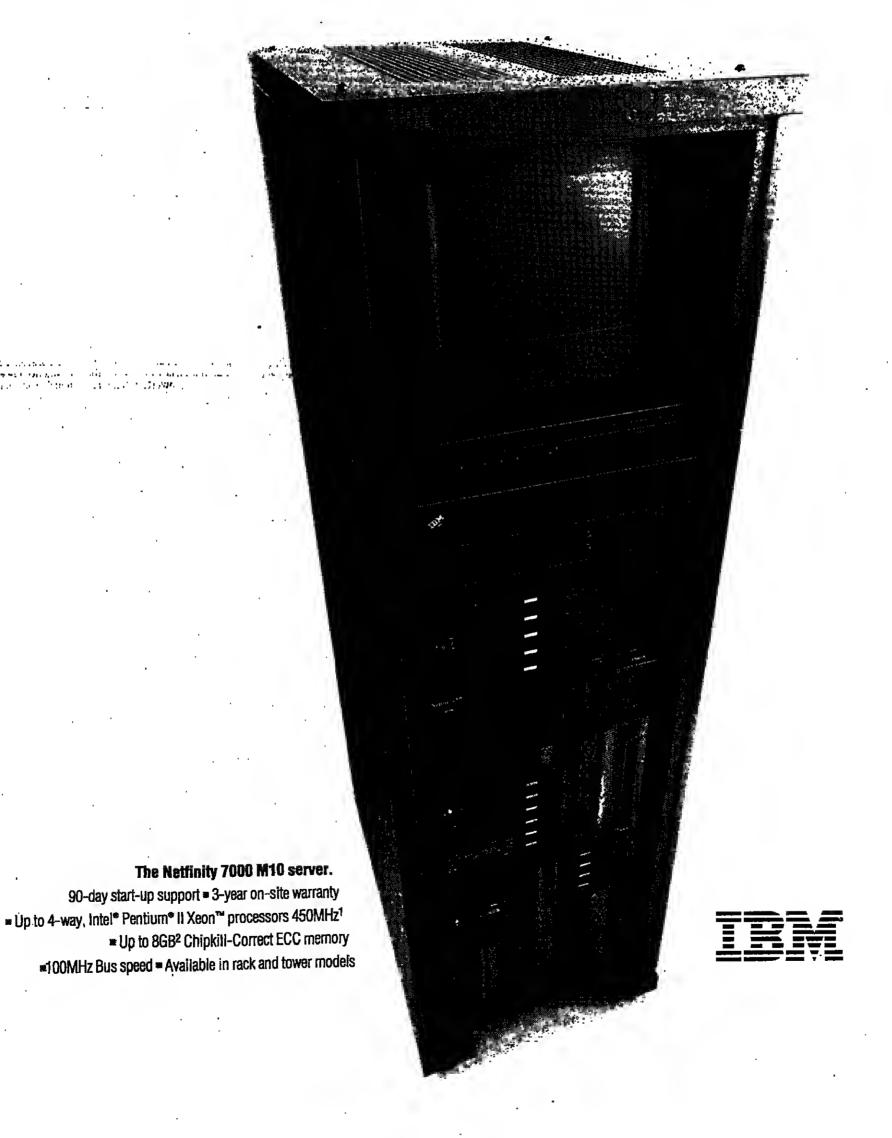
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Chief Executive

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backbone for a regional network supporting a local Intranet, and Internet services providing electronic business services, information, advice and open and

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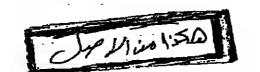
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PEAN HANCE MANAGER

Alex De La Iglesia's quasi-sequel to David

## NEW FILMS

CENTRAL STATION (15) Director: Walter Salles

Starring: Fernanda Montenegro, Vinicius de Oliveira Rio's teeming rail terminus serves as the effective launchpad for Walter Salles's Oscarnominated Brazilian fable. A road-movie of sorts, Central Station trails Fernanda Montenegro's retired schoolmarm and her abandoned nineyear-old charge (played by Vinicius de Oliveira) PLEASANTVILLE (12) on a hunt through the badlands of Sertao for Director Gary Ross the boy's missing father.

The trip takes in all facets of Brazil's disparate, displaced and poverty-stricken culture, yet Salles steadfastly refuses to make any heavyhanded political point here. Instead, his social Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Plaza, Ritzy critique remains implicit, low-down in the mix. The fine, unshowy acting is set off nicely by Walter Carvalho's haunting visuals, as Central Station blooms by degrees into a picture that is both intimate and universal. West End: Barbican Screen, Clapham Picture House, Curzon Maufair, Notting Hill Coronet, Renoir, Ritzy Cinema, Screen on the Hill, Virgin Chelsea Local: Croydon Clocktower

PATCH ADAMS (12)

Director: Tom Shadyac Starring: Robin Williams, Monica Potter

Through the hallowed halls of medical college goes Hunter "Patch" Adams (Robin Williams); a winsome shock-doc who has the patients in stitches while giving a collective hernia to the stuffy establishment. Patch, you see, subscribes to the theory that laughter is the best medicine of all. Idling on your deathbed? Well, here's Patch to stick an enema bulb on his snout and send you off with a smile. Still not happy? No problemo: Patch has a whole heap more comedy tricks up the sleeves of his regulation white coat. Still that's Patch Adams: Awakenings without the angst, Dead Poets Society without the heart. It's like the ultimate distillation of

the ultimate Robin Williams movie: the life sucked out and replaced by syrup. West End: ABC Tottenham Court Road, Empire Leicester Square, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odean Marble Arch, Odean Swiss Cottage, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Fulham Road, Virgin Trocadero. And local cinemas

Starring: Tobey Maguire, Reese Witherspoon See The Independent Recommends, right. West End: Barbican Screen, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble

Cinema, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea, Virgin

Haymarket, Warner Village West End. And

SCHIZOPOLIS (18)

local cinemas

Director: Steven Soderbergh Starring: Steven Soderbergh

Between Soderbergh's The Underneath (a boxoffice bomb) and last year's Out of Sight (a hit) came Schizopolis: a stop-gap experiment, a beaten retreat into art-house abstraction and evidence, perhaps, of a director in crisis.

Pieced together on a thrift-shop budget, Schizopolis is a bit of cinematic crazy-paving. Suburban manners, corporate paranoia, dental hygiene and the rituals of sdultery are all deconstructed in energetic, scattergun fashion. though it's finally a shade too film-school wacky to warm to. While Schizopolis is undeniably the strangest film in the "American Independence" season that it's headlining, some of the other offerings (Clockwatchers, or Spike Lee's Four Little Girls) are more rounded and satisfying. Eye of God, Niagara Niagara and Sticky Fingers of Time are also showing. West End: Curzon Soho

Xan Brooks

## THE INDEPENDENT RECOMMENDS

#### THE FIVE BEST FILMS

المكذامن للقهل

Festen (15) Danish director Thomas Vinterberg's superlative black comedy concerns the 60th birthday of a family patriarch who finds himself at the centre of dark secrets that unexpectedly emerge.

The Thin Red Line (15)

Terrence Malick returns to the screen after n 20-year absence with a hugely ambitious film about the battle of Guadakanal. A war movie of a sort, though what that sort might be is uncertain. Affliction (15)

Paul Schrader's bleak study in fatherhood and

fatalism, adapted from Russell Banks's novel,

stars Nick Nolte as a man struggling to escape the influence of his violent dad (James Coburn).

Shakespeare in Love (15) This enjoyable romp (right) suggests how romance fired Shakespeare with the creative inspiration for Romeo and Juliet. With a multi-star cast.

Pleasantville (12)

Two Nineties teenagers are magicked into the world of a favourite Fifties sitcom and begin to exert a dramatic influence on its conformist black-andwhite idyll. A witty, inventive parable.

ANTHONY OUINN

#### THE FIVE BEST PLAYS

Shockheaded Peter (Lyric Hammersmith, London)

The deliciously smister Struwwelpeter stories meet the macabre Tiger Lillies in a glorious, gorgeously gory evening of music theatre (right). To 10 Apr

Blue Heart (The Pleasance, London) Bracing comedy and a dark heart in Max Stafford-Clark's exemplary production of Caryl Churchill's playful double-bill. To 21 Mar

(The Albery, London) Sheila Hancock as the tight-fisted matriarch leads a triumphant east in Gorky's comedy. To 27 Mar.

(The Other Place, Stratford) Mariyaux's mordant 18th-century play about a

sexual experiment is brought to life in this RSC/Lyric Hammersmith co-production. To 20 Mar **Buried Alive** (Northcott, Exeter) Mike Alfreds' crack company, Method and

in matters of the heart. To 27 Mar

Madness, in a new play by Philip Osment, specialist

DAVID RESEDICT

#### THE FIVE BEST SHOWS

Jackson Pollock (Tate Gallery)

Revelatory retrospective for the wild hero of Abstract Expressionism going-on Old Master: legendary for his great drip paintings, but widely unshown here for 40 years. To 6 Jun

Portraits by Ingres (National Gallery) Some of the most intense portraiture ever. Exquisite mélames of flesh and fabric, dreams of sex and money. To 25 Apr

Monet in the 20th Century (Royal Academy) The gardens and hily ponds at Giverny dissolve into Gery lights, liquid reflections, depths and

voids (right). To 13.4pr Disasters of War

(Wolverhampton Art Gallery) Three ages of European war through the etchings of Jacques Callot, Goya and Otto Dix. Black-and-white visions from the blackest

of times. To 20 Mar Richard Deacon

(Tate Gallery, Liverpool) "New World Order": more conviceous assemblages of wood, metal, glass and plastic - some gignitic. some humble - by the Eighties sculptor, In 10 Max

## GENERAL RELEASE

AFFLICTION (15)

See The Independent Recommends, above, West End: ABC Shaftesbury Avenue

Jonathan Demme's adaptation of Toni Morrison's multi-layered Pulitzer Prize-winner. Oprah Winfrey's escapee slave struggles to cope with a visitation from a bewitched voodoo child who may (or may not) be the ghost of her dead daughter. Heartfelt acting and a vibrant visual sense paper over all manner of cracks. West End: Ritzy Cinema, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Trocadero, Warner Village West End. And local cinemas

A BUG'S LIFE (U)

A Bug's Life sees humble insect Flik falling in with a raggle-taggle flea circus in an effort to save his community from marauding grasshoppers (headed by Kevin Spacey). The script throws in passably witty gags and the animation proves a ingennity West End: ABC Tottenham Court Road, Clapham Picture House, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Mezzanine, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Plaza, Ritzy Cinema, UCI Whiteleys. Virgin Chelsea, Virgin Trocadero, Warner Village West End. And local cinemas

FESTEN (THE CELEBRATION) (15)

See The Independent Recommends, above. West End: Chelsea Cinema, Clapham Picture House, Curzon Soho, Screen on Baker Street

Through the teeming orange/red/turquoise backdrop of 1970s Morocco treads Kate Winslet's hippie single-mum, her two daughters unwillingly in tow. Winslet does well with a change-of-pace role as the tale's permanently strung-out, unsated matriarch, and the child stars are startlingly good. West End: ABC Swiss Centre, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Renoir, Virgin Fulham Road

HILARY AND JACKIE (15)

Full-throttle playing from Rachel Griffiths and Emily Watson sustains Anand Tucker's warts-andall biopic of the Du Pré sisters. West End: ABC Panton Street, Curzon Soho. Local: Richmond Odeon Studio

HOLY MAN (PG)

Jeff Goldblum plays Ricky, a TV executive. Fearful for his job, Ricky uses spiritual wanderer G (Eddie Murphy) as a frontman on his shopping show and sales go through the roof. G, in turn, teaches Ricky a few soulful lessons-you know, about life and stuff. Parts of Holu Man are funny, but the film never finds the right tone. Local cinemas

HOW STELLA GOT HER GROOVE BACK (15) Essentially this is Shirley Volentine with an Afro-American spin, but Angela Bassett works hard to make an impression among the slideshow of tourist-brochure visuals. West End: Virgin Trocadero. And local cinemas

LIFE IS BEAUTIFUL (LA VITA È BELLA) (PG) In Roberto Benigni's Oscar-nominated comedy he takes centre-stage as a clowning Jewish bookseller in fascist Italy. Spirited off to a deathcamp, he strives to convince his son that it's nothing more than an eccentric game. West End: Curzon Soho, Curzon Minema. Odeon Kensington, Ritzy Cinema, Screen on the Hill, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea, Virgin Haymarket

PAINTED ANGELS (15)

Jon Sanders' revisionist western revolves around 8 frontier brothel presided over by Brenda Fricker's no-nonsense madam. Earthy, naturalistic acting goes hand in hand with Gerald Packer's evocative visuals, though the resolutely downbeat handling makes it - slow-going at times. West End: Renoir

Repertory: Phoenix Cinema. And local cinemas

PERDITA DURANGO (18)

Lynch's Wild at Heart is a strutting caper, tequila-ed to the gills and running on a kind of - Posturing wackiness. West End: Metro

π (Pf) (15)

Darren Aronofsky's pungent début idles between maths lesson and art class, as Sean Gullete's New York number-cruncher ponders a numerical code behind the holy Hebrew texts. What sustains Pi is the pure-blood ingenuity of its central conceit, its ongoing "mathematics is the language of nature" mantra and the louche, too-cool-for-school demeanour. It all adds up. West End: ABC Ponton Street

SAVING PRIVATE RYAN (15)

In Steven Spielberg's Second World War drama; Captain John Miller (Tom Hanks) is dispatched with his squad on a compassionate mission to seek out a young private behind enemy lines - his three brothers have already been killed in combat - and return him home to safety. West End: Plaza. And local cinemas

SHAKESPEARE IN LOVE (15)

See The Independent Recommends, above. West End: ABC Tottenham Court Road, Clapham Picture House, Empire Leicester Square, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Ritzy Cinema, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Fulham Road, Virgin Trocadero. And local cinemas

THE THIN RED LINE (15)

See The Independent Recommends, above. West End: Clapham Picture House, Gate Notting Hill, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington. Odeon Leicester Square, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Ritzy Cinema, Screen on the Green, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsen, Virgin Fulham Road. And local cinemas

THIS YEAR'S LOVE (18) A cast of Britain's finest (Kathy Burke, Ian Hart, Douglas Henshall et al) weave to and fro through David Kane's Camden-set essay on urban romance. Kane's screeuplay is generally witty and well-observed, but the film cranks what might have been a sublime one-hour teleplay into double its natural length. Still, that's modern romance for you - you can't fit it into tidy boxes, no matter how hard you try. West End: Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon West End, Ritzy Cinema, UCI Whiteleys. And local cinemas

TITANIC TOWN (15)

All aboard for Troubles-hit Belfast, circa 1972. The IRA and British forces are taking potshots at each other in the street. Civilians are dying in the crossfire. To the rescue comes Julie Walters's concerned local mum, who lobbies for 8 ceasefire and finds herself caught between the opposing factions. Roger Michell's fact-based fable is well-intentioned and honestly rendered, but it's faintly lightweight, too. For a film implicitly about rage, waste and human passions, it's low on dramatic comph. West End. ABC Swiss Centre

IRRAN LEGEND (18) Jamie Blanks's stalk-and-sissh romp is a strangely bland and inconsequential bloodbath: fresh-faced teens meeting their grisly end in a drama as cold and schematic as 8 daytime talk show. West End. Virgin Trocadero, Warner Village West End. And local cinemas

YOUR FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS (18) Another troubling X-ray of American mores from in the Company of Men director Neil LaBute. West End: ABC Piccodilly, Metro

YOU'VE GOT MAIL (PG)

Seasoned players Tom Hanks and Meg Ryan star in a contrived romantic comedy that's zapped out of its old-fashioned rut by a shrewd Internet plot hook: they squabble in daily life and get all gooey on-line. West End. ABC Tottenham Court Road, Clapham Picture House, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch. Odeon Swiss Cottage, Screen on Baker Street, UCI Whiteleys. Virgin Fulham Road, Virgin Haymarket, Virgin Trocadero, Warner Village West End. And local cinemas

**CINEMA** 

ABC PANTON STREET ABC PARTON STREET
(0870-902 0404) Piccadilly
Circus Elizabeth 2.15pm,
5.15pm, 8.15pm Hilary and
Jackle 2.25pm, 5.25pm, 8.20pm
Lock, Stock & Two Smoking
Barrels 1.15pm, 3.40pm,
6.10pm, 8.35pm x (Pi) 1.30pm,
3.35pm, 6.15pm, 8.45pm

ABC PICCADILLY

(0171-287 4322) Piccadilly Grcus Loved 1.30pm, 3.55pm, 6.15pm, 8.35pm Your Friends and Neighbors 1.40pm, 4.05pm, 6.25pm, 8.45pm ABC SHAFTESBURY AVENUE

(0870-902 0402) & Leicester Square Affliction 1.10pm, 3.40pm, 6.05pm, 8.30pm Elizabeth 1.45pm, 5.30pm, 8.10pm 

des Anges 1,45pm, 4.05pm, 6.25pm, 8.45pm ABC TOTTENHAM COURT ROAD (0870-902 0414) & Tottenham Court Road A Bug's Life 4pm Fatch Adams 1.15pm, 3.45pm, 6.20pm, 9.05pm Shakespeare in Love 1.10pm, 3.50pm, 6.30pm, 9.25pm You've Got M@II 1pm, 6.10pm, 9.15pm

BARBICAN SCREEN (0171-638 8891) Moorgate Central Station 3pm, 6.15pm, 8.40pm Pleasantville 6pm,

CHELSEA CINEMA (0171-351 3742) & Sloane Square Festen 2pm. 4.15pm, 6.30pm, 8.50pm

**CLAPHAM PICTURE HOUSE** (0171-498 3323) Capham Common Central Station 1.45pm, 4.20pm, 7pm, 9.20pm Fester 2.15pm, 4.30pm, 6.50pm, 9.10pm Shakespeare in Love 1.30pm, 6.30pm The Tain Red Line 1.15pm, 4.45pm, 8.15pm You've Got M@il 4pm, 9pm

CURZON MAYFAIR (0171-369 1720) ⊕ Green Park Central Station 1.30pm, 3.45pm, 6.15pm, 8.45pm

CURZON MINEMA (0171-369 1723) & Hyde Park Corner/Knightsbridge La Vita è Bella 3pm, 6.30pm, 8.50pm

CURZON SOHO (0171-734 2255 (12noon-6pm)) Leicester Square Clockwatchers
 4.45pm Festen 2.15pm, 4.30pm, 7,7pm, 9.30pm Hilary and Jackle 2.15pm, 6.45pm (not Tue) Niagara Niagara 12.15pm, 9.15pm La Vita è Bella 1pm, 4pm, 6.30pm, 9pm

EMPIRE LEICESTER SQUARE (0990-888990) & Leicester Square Meet Joe Black 3,40pm, 7,20pm Patch Adams 1pm, 3.40pm, 6.20pm, 9pm The Prince of Egypt 1.15pm Shakespeare in Love 12.15pm, 3pm, 6pm, 8.45pm

GATE NOTTING HILL (0171-727 4043) & Notting Hill Gate The Thin Red Line 1.10pm.

NOTTING HILL CORONET

(0171-727 6705) & Norting Hill Gate Central Station 3.30pm, 6pm, 8.40pm ODEON CAMDEN TOWN
(08705-050007) ← Camden Town
A Bug's Life 11.40am, 1.35pm,
Patch Adams 12.05pm, 3.35pm,
6.05pm, 8.45pm Pleasantville
11.45am, 2.20pm, 5.35pm,
8.25pm Shakespeare in Love
2.55pm, 8.20pm The Thin Red
Line 11.55am, 3.25pm, 7.40pm
This Year's Love 3.30pm,
5.50pm, 8.50pm You've Got
Mi⊕il 12.35pm, 5.50pm ODEON CAMDEN TOWN

ODEON HAYMARKET (08705-050007) ← Piccadilly Circus Seepmon 12.35pm, 3,10pm, Stepmom 12.35 5.50pm, 8.30pm

ODEON KENSINGTON (08705-050007) O High Street Kensington Patch Adams 12.40pm, 3.35pm, 6.30pm, 9.30pm Pleasantville 12.30pm, 3.25pm. Pleasantone 12.30pm, 9.25pm, 6.20pm, 9.15pm Shakespeare in Lowe 12.25pm, 3.20pm, 6.15pm, 9.10pm The Thin Red Line 1.25pm, 5.05pm, 8.45pm La Vita è Bella 1.05pm, 3.50pm, 6.35pm, 9.20pm You've Got M@II 12.50pm, 3.45pm, 6.40pm, 9.35pm ODEON LEICESTER SQUARE

**ODEON MARBLE ARCH** ODEON MARBLE ARCH
(08705-050007) Marble Arch A
Bug's Life 1.55pm, 4.05pm Patch
Adams 12.55pm, 3.40pm, 6.30pm,
9.10pm Pleasantville 12,40pm,
3.25pm, 6.10pm, 9.15pm
Shakespeare in Love 12.50pm,
3.35pm, 6.20pm, 9.05pm The Thin
Red Line 1.05pm, 4.35pm, 8.10pm
You've Got M@ll 12.45pm,
3.30cm, 6.15pm, 9om

3.30pm, 6.15pm, 9pm ODEON MEZZANINE WARNER VILLAGE WEST END Two Smoking Barrels 1.25pm, 3.55pm, 6.20pm, 8.45pm The Slege 1.15pm, 3.40pm, 6.05pm, 8.30pm Stepmom 12.30pm, 3.05pm, 5.45pm, 8.25pm

**ODEON SWISS COTTAGE** 08705-050007) ⊕ Swiss Cottage Hideous Kinky 6,10pm Lal Badshah 1pm, 4,30pm, 7,50pm Patch Adams 12,30pm, 3,15pm, Patch Adams 12.30pm, 3.15pm, 5.50pm, "B.30pm Pleasantville 12.10pm, 2.55pm, 5.40pm, 8.20pm Shakespeare in Love 12.40pm, 3.20pm, 8.25pm The Thin Red Line 12.35pm, 4.05pm, 7.45pm You've Got M@il 12.15pm, 2.45pm, 5.30pm, 8.15pm

ODEON WEST END 6.15pm, 8.50pm

PEPSI IMAX CINEMA (0171-494 4153) • Piccadilly Circus Everest 4.45pm, 9.05pm L5 (IMAX) 2.40pm, 7pm T-Rex: Back to the Cretaceous (3-D) 1.35pm, 3.40pm, 5.45pm, 8pm, 10.05pm

PLAZA

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Circus A Bug's Life 1pm, 3.15pm Pleasantville 12.15pm, 3pm, 5.45pm, 8.45pm Saving Privata Ryan 12.30pm, 4.15pm, 7.45pm 5tar Trek: Insurrection 6pm, 8.30pm The Truman 5 1.45pm, 4pm, 6.30pm, 9pm

RENOIR (0171-837 8402) ← Russell Square Central Station 1.35pm, 3.55pm, 6.25pm, 8.45pm Hideous Kinky 1.50pm, 6.35pm Painted Angels 4.10pm, 8.55pm

RITZY CINEMA (0171-733 2229) BR/+ Broom Beloved 8.40pm Central Station 2.15pm, 4.35pm, 6.55pm, 9.15pm La Grande Blusion 1.55pm Pleasantville 4.10pm, 6.45pm, 9.20pm Shalespeare in Love 1.45pm, 6.40pm The Thin Red Line 1.30pm, 4.50pm, 8.10pm This Year's Love 4.20pm, 9.10pm La Vita è Bella 3.35pm, 6.10pm

SCREEN ON BAKER STREET (0171-935 2772) & Baker Street Festen 3.10pm, 6.35pm, 8.50pm Vou've Got M@U 3.35pm, 6.10pm, 8.40pm

SCREEN ON THE GREEN (0171-226 3520) & Angel The Thin Red Line 3pm, 7.30pm SCREEN ON THE HILL

(0171-435 3366) ← Belsize Park Central Stadon 4.30pm, 9.15pm La Vita è Bella 2.10pm, 6.50pm UCI WHITTELEYS 2.40pm. 5.20pm. 8.20pm The Thin Red Line 12,50pm, 4.20pm 7.50pm La Vita è Bella 12.20pm, 3pm, 6pm. 8.40pm You've Got M@il 12.10pm, 2.50pm, 5.30pm.

VIRGIN CHELSEA (0870-907 0710) & Sloane Square Central Station 12.45pm, 3.30pm, 6.10pm, 9pm La Vita è Bella 1.15pm, 3.45pm, 6.30pm, 9.10pm Pleasantville 12.30pm, 3.15pm, 6pm, 8.50pm The Thin Red Line 1pm. 4.30pm, 8pm

VIRGIN FULHAM ROAD (0870-907 0711) & South Kensington Hideous Kinky 2pm. Kensington Hideous Kiriky 2pm.
4.30pm, 7.10pm, 9.30pm Little
Voice 1.50pm, 4.10pm, 7pm,
9.20pm Patch Adams 1.10pm,
3.40pm, 6.20pm, 9pm,
Shakespeare in Love 12.50pm,
3.30pm, 6.10pm, 8.50pm The
Thin Red Line 1.20pm, 5.10pm,
8.40pm You've Got M@il 1pm,
3.40pm, 6.20pm, 9.10pm

(0870-907 0712) O Orcus Pleasantville 12.25pm. 3.05pm. 5.45pm. 8.30pm La Vita è Bella 12.50pm. 3.20pm. 5.50pm. 8.25pm You've Got M@il 12.40pm, 3.15pm, 5.55pm, 8.45pm

VERGIN TROCADERO Circus Belowed 12.50pm, 4.20pm. 8pm A Bug's Life 12.05pm, 2.10pm, 4.25pm, 6.35pm Bulworth 9pm Enemy of the State 12noon, 2.50pm, 5.40pm, 8.30pm Patch Adams 12.20pm, 3pm, 5.50pm, 8.40pm Shakespeare in Love 12noon, 2.40pm, 5.30pm, 8.20pm Urban Legend 12.50pm, 3.30pm, 6.10pm, 8.40pm You've Got M@il 12.10pm, 2.50pm, 5.40pm, 8.50pm

(0171-437 4343) → Leicesler Square Beloved 1.20pm, 4.50pm, Square Beloved 1.20pm, 4.50pm, 8.20pm A Bug's Life 12.10pm, 2.30pm, 4.50pm, 7pm, 9.25pm Buhworth 3.55pm, 8.50pm The Opposite of Sex 12.40pm, 3.20pm, 6.10pm, 8.40pm Pleasantville 12noon, 3pm, 6pm, 9pm Practical Magic 12.55pm, 6pm Urban Legend 11.50am, 2.10pm, 4.30pm, 6.50pm, 9.10pm Very Bad Things 1.40pm, 4.15pm, 9.05pm You've Got M@il 12noon, 12.50pm, 2.50pm, 3.30pm, 5.40pm, 6.20pm, 8.30pm, 9.15pm,

**CINEMA** LONDON LOCALS

ACTON ACTON
PARK ROYAL WARNER VILLAGE
(0181-896 0066) Park Royal
Beloved 2.40pm, 6.10pm A Bug's
Life 1.10pm, 3.30pm, 5.40pm,
7.50pm, 10pm Patch Adams
1.40pm, 4.20pm, 7pm, 9.50pm
Pleasantville 1.10pm, 3.50pm,
6.40pm, 9.30pm, Chaterone in Pleasantville 1.10pm, 3.50pm, 6.40pm, 9.30pm Shakespeare in Love 12.30pm, 3.10pm, 5.50pm, 8.30pm The Thin Red Line 12.40pm, 1.50pm, 4.10pm, 5.20pm, 8pm, 9pm This Year's Love 9.40pm Urban Legend 1.30pm, 4pm, 9.10pm You've Got M@il 12.30pm, 3.20pm, 6pm, 8.40pm

BARNET BARNET

OBEON (08705-050007) 

High

Barnet A Bug's Life 12.30pm,

2.30pm, 4.30pm Patch Adams

1.30pm, 3.45pm, 6.35pm, 8.50pm Pleasantville 12.45pm, 3.30pm, 6.0pm, 6.30pm, 6.0pm, 8.30pm Shakespeare in Love 1pm, 3.25pm, 6.10pm, 8.40pm The Thin Red Line 12.40pm, 3.50pm, 7.45pm You've Got M@li

6.20pm, 8.45pm RECKENHAM ABC (0870-902 0412) BR: ABC. (0870-902 0412) BRC Beckenham Junction A Bug's Life 4pm Patch Adams 1.30pm. 4.45pm, 8.15pm Shakespeare in Love 1.15pm, 6.05pm, 8.40pm You've Got M@II 1.45pm, 5.45pm, 0.45pm.

BECKENHAM STUDIO (0181-663 0103) BR: Beckenham Junction Gadjo Dilo Thu Spm

BEXLEYHEATH CINEWORLD (0181-303 1550) BR: Bedeyheath A Bug's Life 1.15pm, 5.40pm, 7.50pm La Vita è Bella 4.30pm, 9.15pm Little Voice 2.15pm, 7pm Patch Adams 12ncon, 2.25pm, 4.50pm, 7.20pm, 9.45pm Diagraphille, 1.40pm, 4.20pm Pleasantville 1.40pm, 4.20pm, 7.05pm, 9.40pm Saving Private Ryan 12.25pm, 4.25pm, 8pm Shakespeare in Love 1.30pm, 4pm, 5.30pm, 9.10pm Stepmorn 1.20pm, 4,15pm, 7pm The Thin Red Line 12.50pm, 4,20pm, 7.50pm This Year's Love 9.50pm Urban Legend 9.35pm You've Got M@W 12.25pm,

2.50pm, 5.10pm, 7.30pm, 9.50pm ODEON (08705-050007) BR: Brom-ley North A Bug's Life 2.05pm. 4.20pm, 6.30pm Patch Adams 1pm. 3.35pm, 6.10pm, 8.45pm Pleas-antville 12.30pm, 2.40pm, 5.30pm, 8.20pm The Thin Red Line 12.25pm, 4.10pm, 7.45pm You've Got M@0 8.40pm

CATFORD ABC (0181-461 1278) BR: Catford Patch Adams 2.25pm, 5.20pm, 8,20pm Saving Private Ryan 3pm, 7.30pm CROYDON

6pm, 8.30pm + Short SAFARI (0181-688 3422) BR: West Croydon, A Bug's Life 5.40pm Lal Baadshah 8pm Patch Adams 5.30pm, 8.10pm You've Got M@II 5.35pm, 8.20pm

WARNER VILLAGE (0181-680

8090) BR: East Croydon A Bug's
Life 1pm. 3.30pm. 4.10pm.
6pm. 8.40pm Patch Adams
1.20pm. 4pm. 6.50pm.
9.35pm Pleasantville 12.50pm.
3.40pm. 6.20pm. 9.10pm

CLOCKTOWER (0181-253 1030) BR: West Central Station 3.30pm.

Shakespeare In Love 1.10pm, 3.50pm, 6.30pm, 9.20pm The Thin Red Line 1.40pm, 5.05pm, 8.25pm This Year's Love 2pm, 4.35pm, 7.10pm, 9.55pm Urban Legend 2.10pm, 4.30pm, 9.45pm You've Got M@d 3.20pm, 6.10pm, 8.55pm

DAGENHAM DAGENHAM
WARNER VILLAGE (0181-592
2020) © Dagenham Heathway
A Bug's Life 1,50pm, 3.55pm,
6.10pm, 8.20pm Patch Adams
1,25pm, 3.50pm, 6.20pm, 8.50pm
Pleasantville 1,30pm, 4.05pm,
6.50pm, 9.30pm Shakespeare in
Love 3,30pm, 6pm, 8.40pm The
Thin Red Line 2pm, 4.50pm,
5.20pm, 8.10pm, 9pm This Year's
Love 2,20pm, 4,40pm, 9,20pm 1.20pm, 9.20pm, 4.40pm, 9.20pm Urban Legend 2.50pm, 5.05pm, 7.20pm, 9.40pm You've Got M@il 1.40pm, 4.10pm, 6.40pm, 9.10pm

(0870-907 0719) BR/O Ealing Broadway Patch Adams 2.30pm, 5.20pm, 8.40pm The Thin Red Line 3pm, 7.40pm You've Got M@II 2.20pm, 5.40pm, 8.30pm BELLE-VUE (0181-381 2556) &

EALING VIRGIN UXBRIDGE ROAD

Edgware Aa Ab Laut Chalen phone for times Daag phone for times Fire phone for times Kachche Dhaage phone for times Kuch Kuch Hota Haf bone for times You've Got M@il 5.30pm, 8.20pm

7.30pm A Bug's Life 1.45pm, 2.50pm, 4.30pm, 5.30pm, 7.45pm, 10.10pm How 5tella Got Her-Groove Back 8.50pm Huru Aapke Hain Koun...! 5.15pm La Vita è Bella Hain Koun...! 5.15pm La Vita è Bella 3.05pm. 9pm Patch Adams 12.50pm, 3.45pm. 6.25pm, 9.20pm Pleasantville 1.10pm. 4pm. 7pm, 9.40pm Saving Private Ryan 2pm, 5.40pm Shakespeare in Love 1.15pm, 3.55pm, 6.40pm, 9.30pm The Thân Red Line 12.30pm, 1.30pm, 4.15pm, 5pm, 7.55pm, 8.30pm This Year's Love 2.10pm, 6.45pm, 7.05pm. 9.50pm Urban Legend 10pm You've Got M@il 12.40pm, 3.35pm, 6.20pm, 9.10pm

**ELEPHANT AND CASTLE** CORONET (0171-703 4968) BR/49 Elephant and Castle Patch Adams 3.40pm, 6.05pm, 8.30pm This Year's Love 4.05pm, 6.15pm, 8.40pm You've Got M@II 3.20pm, 5.50pm, 8.25pm

FELTHAM Love 1pm, 3.40pm, 6.20pm, 9pm Stepmom 11.50am, 2.20pm, 7.20pm The Thin Red Line 11.20am. pm, 2.40pm, 4.30pm, 6.10pm, 8pm, 9.40pm This Year's Love 11.30am, 1.45pm, 4pm, 6.30pm, 8.55pm Urbae Legend 5pm, 9.50pm You've Got M@t 11.10am, 1.50pm, 4.25pm, 7pm, 9.30pm

FENCHLEY WARNER VILLAGE FINCHLEY WARNER VILLAGE FINCHLEY ROAD (0171-604 3059) & Finchley Road A Bug's Life 1.30pm, 3.50pm, 6.10pm, 8.20pm Patch Adams 12.30pm, 3.10pm, 5.50pm, 8.25pm Pleasantville 1.15pm, 3.55pm, 6.40pm, 9.30pm Shakespeare In Love 12.50pm, 3.40pm, 6.20pm, 9.15pm The Thin Red Line 12.00n, 10pm, 3.30pm, 4.25pm, 80m, 90m 1pm, 3.30pm, 4.25pm, 8pm, 9pm, 1pm; Year's Love 1.20pm, 4pm, 6.30pm, 9.10pm Urban Legend 10.25pm You've Got M@N 12.40pm, 3.25pm, 6.05pm, 8.45pm ABC (0870-902 0401) Putney

WARNER VILLAGE NORTH FINCHLEY (0181-446 9344) & East Finchley A Bug's Life 12noon. 2.10pm, 4.20pm, 6.30pm, 8.30pm, Patch Adams 12.55pm, 3.30pm, 6.15pm, 9pm Pleasantville 1.20pm, 4pm, 8.40pm, 9.20pm Shakespeare in Love 12.35pm, 3.20pm, 6pm, 9.10pm The Thin Red Line 12.45pm, 4.40pm, 8.40pm This Year's Love 4.45pm, 9.50pm Urban Legend 1.15pm, 3.40pm, 9.40pm You've Got M@ff 3.50pm, 6.50pm, 9.30pm

GOLDERS GREEN ABC (0181-455 1724) ← Golders Green Patch Adams 2.45pm, 5.30pm, 8.20pm

GREENWICH GREENWICH (0181-293 0101) BR: Greenwich Pleasantville 3.30pm, 6.10pm, 8.50pm Shakespeare in Love 7pm The Thin Red Line 4.30pm, 8pm You've Got M@il 4.35pm. 9.20pm

TOM LURBOUK

HAMPSTEAD
ABC 10870-902 0413) 

Belsize
Park A Bug's Life 1 15pm Jack
Frost 1.05pm Patch Adams
2.15pm, 5.30pm, 8.30pm
Shakespeare in Love 2.35pm,
5.15pm, 8.15pm You've Got Might 2pm, 5.40pm, 8.20pm HAMMERSMITH VIRGIN (0870-907 0718) O

VirkGIN (0870-907 0718) & Ravenscourt Park A Bug's Life Sat& Sun 12,30pm, 3pm Jungle 2 Jungle Sat 10,30pm Patch Adams 1.10pm, 3.40pm, 6.20pm, 9pm Shakespeare in Love 12.50pm [not Sat & Sun] The Thin Red Line 1pm, 4.30pm, 8pm You've Got M@il 1pm, 3.40pm, 6.15pm, 8.50pm HARROW SAFARI (0181-426 0303) 4

Harrow-on-the-Hill Lai Baadshah 8.45pm Zakhm 8.45pm WARNER VILLAGE (0181-427

EDMONTON
LEE VALLEY UCI 12 (0990DECON (08705-050007)
HOlloway Road Beloved 12.3 4.15pm, 7.45pm A Bug's Life 1.25pm, 3.45pm, 6.40pm, 8.55pm Patch Adams 1pm, 3.35pm, 6.10pm, 8.45pm Pleasantville 12.30pm, 3.10pm, 5.50pm, 8.30pm Shakespeare in Love 12.25pm, 3.15pm, 5.55pm, 8.35pm The Tain Red Line 12.50pm, 4.20pm, 7.50pm This Year's Love 1.20pm, 3.50pm, 6.20pm, 8.50pm You've Got M@il

12.40рт, 3.20рт, брт, 8.40рт

ILFORD

KINGSTON

Hill A Bug's Life 2pm, 4pm, 6.05pm Patch Adams 2.50pm. 5.50pm, 8.30pm Pleasantville 2.40pm, 5.40pm, 8.20pm Shakespeare in Love 8.05pm The Thin Red Line 12.35pm. 4pm, 7.30pm You've Got M@il 2.40pm. 5.40pm, 8.20pm

ODEON (08705-050007) & Gants

KILBURN TRICYCLE (0171-328 1000) + Kilbum La Vita è Bella 7pm.

ABC OPTIONS (0870-902 0409) BR: Kingston Jack Frost 12.50pm, 3.05pm Patch Adams 2.30pm, 5.40pm, 8.20pm Shakespeare in Love 2.10pm, 5.20pm, 8.05pm You've Got M@il 2.20pm, 5.30pm. MUSWELL HILL

MUSWELL HILL
ODEON (08705-050007) 
Highgate A Bug's Life 2.15pm,
4.15pm Patch Adams 1pm,
3.30pm, 6pm, 8.30pm The Thin
Red Line 1.25pm, 4.35pm, 7.50pm
This Year's Love 6.20pm You'we
Got M@lf 8.40pm PECKHAM PECKHAM PREMIER |0181-235 3006) BR: Peckham Rye Beloved 5.05pm, 8.30pm A Bug's Life 5pm, 7pm How Stella Got Her Groove Back 9.05 Patch Adams 4pm. 6.30pm. 9pm Pleasantville
4.10pm. 6.40pm. 9.10pm The
Thin Red Line 4.55pm. 8.15pm
You've Got M@il 4.20pm.
6.50pm. 9.20pm

PURLEY ABC (0870-902 0407) BR: Purley Patch Adams 5.40pm, 8.20pm Pleasantville 5.10pm, 7.55pm You've Got M@H 5.20pm, 8pm PUTNEY

Bridge Patch Adams 2.15pm, 5.45pm, 8.30pm Shakespeare in Love 2.15pm, 5.30pm, 8.15pm You've Got M@il 2.15pm, 5.15pm. 8.30pm RICHMOND
ODEON (08705-050007) BR 9
Richmond Patch Adams 1pm,
630om, 9.10pm Shakespeare in Love 12.30pm, 3.20pm, 6.10pm, 9pm The Thin Red Line 12.50pm, 4.30pm, 8.10pm

**ODEON STUDIO (08705-050007)** ODEON STUDIO (08705-050007)
BR/O Richmond A Bug's Life
2.30pm, 4.50pm, 7.10pm Hilary
and Jackie 1.30pm Little Voice
9.30pm Pleasantville 1pm,
3.40pm, 6.20pm, 9pm This Year's
Love 4.10pm, 6.30pm, 9.20pm
You've Got M@il 1pm, 3.50pm,
6.30pm, 9.10pm

ABC (0870-902 0419) BR: Romford Patch Adams 2.10pm, 5.10pm, 8.10pm Pleasantville 2.20pm, 5.20pm, 8.20pm You've Got M@tl 2.35pm, 5.30pm, 8.40pm

ROMFORD

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ODEON LIBERTY 2 (08705-050007) BR: Romford A Bug's Life 12.10pm, 2pm, 2.30pm, 4.20pm, 4.45pm, 6.30pm, 6.50pm, 8.40pm Patch Adams 12,45pm, 3.30pm, 6.15pm, 8.45pm Pleasantville 12.20pm, 3.10pm, 5.50pm, 8.30pm Shakespeare in Love 12,30pm, 3pm, 5,40pm, 8,15pm The Thin Red Line 12.30pm, 4pm, 7.30pm This Year's Love 1.30pm, 4.10pm, 6.30pm, 8.50pm Urban Legend 9pm You've Got M@il 12.15pm. 3pm, 5.45pm, 8.20pm

ABC (0541-555131) BR: Sidcup Patch Adams 5.20pm, 8.20pm Saving Private Ryan 7.30pm

STAPLES CORNIER VIRGIN (0870-907 0717) BR: Cricklewood A Bug's Life 2.15pm. 4.35pm. 7pm Patch Adams 1pm. 3.45pm, 6.30pm, 9.15pm Pleasantville 1pm, 3.45pm, 6.30pm, 9.15pm Shakespeare in Love 3.10pm, 5.50pm, 8.50pm The Thin Red Line 1.15pm, 4.45pm, 8.20pm This Year's Love 9.15pm You've Got M@il :pm. 3.45pm.

6.20pm, 9pm NEW STRATFORD PICTURE HOUSE (0181-555 3366) BR/O Stratford East A Bug's Life 1.55pm Patch Adams 1.30pm, 3.55pm, 6.20pm, 8.55pm Pleasantville 12.50pm, 3.25pm, 6pm, 8.35pm The Thin Red Line 1.15pm, 4.35pm, 8pm You've Got M@il 3.50pm, 6.20pm,

8.50pm STREATHAM ABC (0870-902 0415) BR: Streatham Hill Patch Adams 2.15pm. 5.45pm, 8.20pm 2.15pm. 5.45pm, 8.20pm Shakespeare in Love 2.25pm.

5.25pm, 8.30pm OOEON (08705-050007) BR; CCEON (08703-05007) BR; Streatham Hill Beloved 12.45pm, 4,15pm, 7.45pm A Bug's Life 2.10pm, 4,10pm How Stella Got Her Groove Back 6,05pm, 8.35pm Pleasantville 12,30pm, 3.10pm

7:635antwille 12.30pm, 3.10pm, 5.50pm, 8.30pm The Thin Red Line 12.40pm, 4.10pm, 7.40pm You've Got M@il 12.40pm, 3.15pm, 5.50pm, 8,30pm **SURREY QUAYS** UCI (0990-888990) & Surrey Quays Beloved 8,30pm A Bug's Life 1.05pm, 2pm, 3.30pm, 4.30pm, 6pm, 8,40pm Jack Frost 2.10pm, 4.40pm Little Voice 5.50pm Madeline 1.30pm, 3.40pm Patch Adams 12,50pm, 3,45pm, 6,30pm, 9,10pm Pleasantville 12,15pm, 3.10pm, 6.20pm, 9pm Shakespeare In Love 1.20pm, 4pm, 6.40pm, 9.20pm Stepmom 7pm The Thin Red Line 12.40pm, 4,15pm, 8pm

Legend 9.40pm You've Got M@fl 12.30pm, 3.20pm, 6.10pm, 8.50pm UCI 6 (0990-888990) BR: Sutton/ Morden A Bug's Life 1.05pm, 3.30pm, 6pm, 8.30pm Little Volce 2pm Madeline 2,15pm Patch Adams 12,50pm, 3,45pm, 6,30pm, 9,15pm Shakespeare in Love 1,20pm, 4pm, 6,45pm, 9,30pm The Thin Red Line 12.35pm, 4.15pm, 8pm This Year's Love 4.30pm, 9.20pm You've Got M@il 4.30pm, 7.10pm, 9.45pm

This Year's Love 9.30pm Urban

TURNPIKE LANE CORONET (0181-888 2519) + Turnpike Lane. Patch Adams 3.40pm, 6.05pm, 8.30pm This Year's Love 4.05pm, 6.15pm, 8.40pm Urban Legend 3.45pm, 6pm, 8.40pm

UXBRIDGE 1.10pm, 3.35pm, 6.05pm, 8.35pm The Thin Red Line 7.40pm

ABC (0870-902 0424) nstow Central Elizabeth Tue 8.15pm Patch Adams 2.15pm, 5.15pm, 8.15pm Shakespeare in Love 2.10pm, 5.15pm, 8.10pm You've Got M@il 1.55pm, 5.05pm,

**WALTON-ON-THAMES** THE SCREEN AT WALTON (01932-252825) BR: Walton-on-Thames Hideous Kinky 3pm, 5,40pm The Thin Red Line 7,40pm You've Got M@ll 3.30pm, 6.05pm, 8.35pm

CORONET (0181-850 3351) 8R: Eitham Patch Adams 3.40pm, 6.05pm, 8.30pm You've Got M@1

BELLE-VUE (0181-830 0822) & Willesden Green Shakespeare In Love 6.30pm. 9pm Small Soldlers

WIMBLEDON ODEON (08705-050007) BR/O Wimbledon A Bug's Life 1,10pm Parch Adams 12.50pm, 3,20pm, 5.50pm, 8.30pm Pleasantville 2.30pm, 5.45pm, 8.25pm 5hakespeare in Love 2.55pm. Line 12.50pm, 4.10pm, 7.40pm You've Got M@I1 12.25pm, 3.10pm, 5.50pm, 8.30pm

NEW CURZON (0181-347 6664) O Tumpike Lane Aa Ab Laut Chalen 2pm Daag 8.45pm Kachche Dhaage 5.30pm

WOODFORD ABC (0181-969 3463) + South Woodford Patch Adams 2.40pm, 5.50pm, 8.20pm Shakespeare In Love 2.40pm, 5.30pm, 8.10pm You've Got M@1 2.30pm, 5.20pm, 8.10pm

MOOLWICH CORONET (0181-854 5043) 8R: Woolwich Arsenal Pleasantville 3pm, 5.35pm, 8.20pm Urban Legend 3.45pm, 6pm, 8.40pm

#### **CINEMA** REPERTORY

LONDON CINE LUMIERE Queensberry Place, SW7 (0171-838 2144) Le Joueur de Flute (The Pied Piper of Hamelin) (NC) 6.30pm Lady

Oscar (NC) 8-30pm ICA The Mall. SW1 (0171-930 3647) Hamam: The Turkish Bath (NC) 5pm Identification of a an (18) 6.30pm Minnie and Moskowitz (NC) 7pm, 9pm Zabriskie Point (18) 9.15pm

NATIONAL FILM THEATRE South Bank, SE1 (0171-928 3232) American Madness (NC) 2,30pm, 8,30pm Revealing Attitudes: In-Fact (NC) 6.15pm The Miracle Woman (NC) 6.30pm The Nego-

tiator [15] 8.20pm PHOENIX CINEMA High Road N2 (0181-444 6789) La Vita è Bella (PG) 1pm, 3.40pm,

PRINCE CHARLES Leicester Place. WCJ (0171-437 8181) Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas [18] 7pm The Mask of Zorro (PG) 6.30pm Unforgiven [15) 9.15pm What Dreams May Come [15) 1.30pm RIVERSIDE STUDIOS CINEMA

Crisp Road. W6 (0171-420 0100) Funny Bones (15) 6.30pm + The Mighty 9pm BRIGHTON **DUKE OF YORK'S (01273-602503)** The Apple (Sib) [PG) 2.15pm, 6.45pm Central Station (15)

4.15pm, 8.45pm CUBE (0114-907 A191) The Doom

Generation (18) 8pm . WATERSHED (0117-925 3845) Perdita Durango (18) 6pm. 8.30pm Central Station (15) 6.10pm Hombres Armados (15) 8.40pm

CAMBRIDGE ARTS (01223-504444) Festen (15) 12noon, 7.15pm Central Station (1S) 2.15pm. 9.20pm The Oppo-site of Sex [18) 5pm

CARDIFF CHAPTER ARTS CENTRE (01222-399666) Fire (1S) 7.30pm La Vie Revée des Anges (18) 8pm

NORWICH CINEMA CITY (01603-622047) The Philadelphia Story (U) 5.45pm The Opposite of Sex (18) 8.15pm

#### PLYMOUTH ARTS CENTRE (01752-206114) Pecker (18) 8pm CINEMA

COUNTRYWIDE BRIGHTON VIRGIN (0541-555145); A Bug's Virgin (0541-555145); A Bug's Life (U); Jack Frost (PG); Jungle 2 Jungle (PG); Madeline (U); Patch Adams (12); Pleasantville (12); Saving Private Ryan (15);

Shakespeare in Love (15); The Thin Red Line (15); This Year's Love (18): You've Got M@il (PG) CARDIFF UCI 12 (0870-603 4567); Antz (PG): A Bug's Life (U): Enemy of the State (15): Hum Aapke Hain Koun...! (U): Jack Frost (PG): Little Voke (15): Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels (18): Madeline (U): Patch Adams (12): Pleasantville (12): Adams (12); Pleasantville (12): The Prince of Egypt (U): Saving Private Ryan (15): Shakespeare in Love (15): The Thin Red Line (15): This Year's Love (18): The Truman Show (PG): Urban Legend (18): Very Bad Things (18): La Vita è Bella (PG) You've Got M@lf (PG)

OOEON (08705-050007); A Bug's Life (U); Elizabeth (15); Jack Frost (PG); Madeline (U); Les Misérables (12); Mulan (U); Patch Adams (12): Pleasantville (12); Shakespeare in Love (15): Small Soldiers (PG); The Thin Red Line (15); You've Got M@fl (PG)

LUTON CINEWORLD (01582-400705); Beloved (15); A Bug's Life (U); Ditwale Duthania Le Jayenge (PG); Oil Se (PG); Jack Frost (PG) Laa Waris (PG); Lal Badshah (PG) Little Voice (15); Madeline (U); Patch Adams (12); Pleasantville (12); Saving Private Ryan (15): The Secret Garden (U): Stalespeare in Love (15): Stepmon (12): The Swan Princess (U): The Tidn Red Line (15): This Year's Love (18): Titanic (12): Urban Legend (18): Wey Bad Things (18): Version Cost Media (16): (18): You've Got M@il (PG)

OOEON (08705-050007) ONEWPORT
Uxbridge A Bug's Life 1.10pm.
3.20pm, 5.30pm Patch Adams
Life (U); Enemy of the State (15);
Life (U); Enemy of the State (15); Hum Aapke Oil Mein Rehte Hafn (PG); Jack Frost (PG); Little Voice (15); Madeline (U): Patch Adams (12); Pleasantville (12); Saving Private Ryan (15); Shakespeare in Love (15); Stepmom (12); The Thin Red Line (15); This Year's Love (18); na (U); Urban Legend (18); You've Got M@II (PG)

UC1 10 (0870-603 4567); A Bug's Life (U); Dancing at Lugh-nasa (PG); Jack Frost (PG); As Ab Laut Chalain (PG); Little Voice (15); Madeline (U): The Parent Trap (PG); Patch Adams (12): Pleasantville (12): Saving Private Ryan (15): espeare in Love (15): Small Thin Red Line (15): This Year's Love (18): Urban Legend (18): You've

Got M@II (PG) PORTSMOUTH ODEON (08705-050007): A Bug's Life (U): Dr Dollttle (PG): Made-line (U): Mulan (U): Pleasantvill (12): Small Soldiers (PG): The Thin Red Line (15): This Year's Love (18): You've Got M@il (PG)

UCI 6 (0870-603 4567): A Bug's Life (U): Dancing at Lughnasi (PG): Little Voice (15): Madeline (U): Patch Adams (12): Shake speare in Love (15): There's Some-thing About Mary (15): The Thin Red Line (15): This Year's Love (18):

SHOWCASE (0118-974 7711); Beloved (15): A Bug's Life (U): Lit-tle Voice (15): Madeline (U): Pauch Adams (12): Pleasantville (12): Saving Private Ryan (15): Shakespeare in Love (15): The Thir Red Line (15): This Year's Love (18): Urban Leg (18): You've Got M@lf (PG)

SOUTHAMPTON . ODEON LEISURE WORLD (01703-222111): Babe: Plg in the City (U); Beloved (15): Blade (18): A Bug's Life (U): Don't Go Breaking my Heart (PG): Dr Dolittle (PG): Ene-my of the State (15): Godzilla (PG): ck Frost (PG): Little Voice (15): Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Bar-rels (18): Madeline (U); Mulan (U); Patch Adams (12): Pleasantville (12): Saving Private Ryan (15): Shakespeare in Love (15): Sm Soldiers (PG); There's Somethi About Mary (15): The Tain Red Line (15): This Year's Love (18): Urban

egend (18): Very Bad Things

(18): You've Got M@II (PG) CINEWORLD (01793-420710): A Bug's Life (U): Elizabeth'(15): Enemy of the State (15); Holy Man (PG); Jack Frost (PG); Kachche Dhaage (PG); Little Voice (15); Madefine (U); Patch Adams (12): Pleasantville (12); Saving Private Ryan (15); The Secret Garden (U): Shake Love (15): Stepmom (12): The Swan Princess (U); The Thin Red Line (15); This Year's Love (18): Titanic (12):

VIRGIN (0541-555134); A Bug's Life (U): Hum Aapke Dii Mein Rehte Hair (PG); Jack Frost (PG); Madeline (U); Patch Adams (12); Pleasantville (12): Shakespeare in Love (15): The Thin Red Line (15); This Year's Love (18): Tom and Jerry - the Movie (U): You've Got M@il (PG)

Urban Legend (18); La Vita è Belia (PG); You've Got M@il (PG)

### THEATRE

WEST END Ticket availability details are for today; times and prices for the week; running times include intervals. — Seats at all prices I — Seats at some prices O — Returns only Matinees — [1]: Sun. [3]: Tue, [4]: Wed. [5): Thur, [6): Frl. [7]: Sat

 AMADEUS David Suchet stars as Selieri in Peter Shaffer's acclaimed drama. Old Vic The Cut, SE1 (0171-928 7616/cc 494 5372) BR/O Waterloo. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4) 2.30pm, [7] 3pm, £7.50-£30. 180 mins.

BEAUTY AND THE BEAST LAVish family musical based on Disney's cartoon version of the invounte fairytale. Pominion Tottenham Court Road, W1 (0171-656 1888) & Tott Ct Rd. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4)[7)

2.30pm. £18.50-£35. 150 mms. **BLOOD BROTHERS Willy Rus**sell's long-running Liverpool musi-cal melodrama. Phoenix Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-369 1733) ♦ Leic So/Tott Ct Rd. Mon-Sat 7.45pm. [5] 3pm. [7] 4pm. £11.50-£32.50. 165 mins.

• CATS Lloyd Webber's musical version of TS Eliot's poems. New Lon-don Parker Street, WC2 (0171-405 0072/cc 404 4079) & Covent Gar-den/Holborn. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, (3[[7] 3pm. E10.50-E35. 165 mins.

D CHICAGO Maria Friedman and Nicola Davies star in this hit Broadway musical. Adelphi Maiden Lane, WC2 (0171-344 0055) & Charing X. Mon-Sat 8pm, [4][7] 3pm. £16-£36 (Incl booking fee). 130 mlns.

Dependent Drama from Michael Prayn about the discovery of the atom. Duchess Catherine Street, WCZ (0171-494 5075/cc 344 4444) ♥ Covent Garden, Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [5][7] 2.30pm, £10-£30.

• DEFENDING THE CAVEMAN Mark Little stars in this witty and wise comedy about the sexes. Apollo Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5070) & Picc Circ. Mon-Thur

8pm, Fri-Sat 6pm & 8.45pm. £5-£25. concs available. GREASE Energetic stage version of the hit film starring Darren Day. Cambridge Earlham Street, WC2 (0171-494 5080) & Covent Garden, Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4][7] 3pm, £10-£32.50, 150 mins.

· GROSS INDECENCY: THE THREE TRIALS OF OSCAR WILDE Michael Pennington and William Hoyland in Moses Kaufman's reconstruction of the downfall of the celebrated playwright. Gielgud Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5065) → Picc Circ. Mon-Sat 7.45pm. [4)[7] 2.30pm. £7.50-£29.50.

DAN INSPECTOR CALLS Stephen Daidry's widely-acclaimed produc-tion of JB Priestley's thriller Garrick Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-494) 5085) & Lekc Sq. Mon-Fri 7.45pm, Sat 8.15pm, [4] 2.30pm, [7) 5pm, £12-£29,50. 110 mlns.

MACBETH Rufus Sewell and Sally Dexter portray thwarted ambi-tion. Queen's Shaftesbury Avenue, WI (0171-494 5040) @ Picc Circ. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [7] 2.30pm, ends 5 Jun, £10.50-£28.50. THE MEMORY OF WATER Alison Steadman and Julia Savalha star in this touching comedy about three sisters returning home for

their mother's funeral Vaudeville Strand, WC2 (0171-836 9987) BR/& Charing X. Mon-Sat 8pm, (5][7] 3pm. £8-£27.50, 120 mins. O LES MISÉRABLES Musical dramatisation of Victor Hugo's masterpiece. Palace Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-434 0909) & Picc Circ.

n-Sat 7,30pm, (5][7) 2,30pm. • MISS SAIGON Musical which resets the Madam Butterfly tragedy to Vietnam. Theatre Royal, Drury Lane Catherine Street, WCZ (0171-494 5060) & Covent Garden. Mon-

Sat 7.45pm. [4)[7] 3pm. £8.50-£35. 165 mins. THE MOUSETRAP Agatha Christie's evergreen whodunnit. St Martin's West Street, WCZ (0171-836 1443) & Lelc Sq. Mon-Sat 8pm. (3) 2.45pm. (7) 5pm. £10-

 OKLAHOMA! Maureen Lipman stars in the National's acclaimed pro-duction of Rodgers and Hammerstein's cowboy versus farmhand musical Lyceum Wellington Street. WC2 (0870-606 3446) & Charing X/Embankment, Mon-Sat 7.30p (4)(7) 2.30pm, ends 26 Jun. £10-£35, 180 mins.

THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA Lloyd Webber's Gothic musical, Her Majesty's Haymarket, SW1 (0171-494 5400) & Picc Circ, Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [4)[7] 3pm, £10-£35, 150 mins.

D RENT Musical inspired by La Bohème and set in modern day New York. Shaftesbury Shaftesbury Avenue. WC2 (07000-211221) & Holborn. Mon-Sat 7.30pm. [4)(7) 3pm. £12.50-£32.50. 160 mins.

RICHARD III Robert Lindsay stars as the historical villain. Savoy Strand, WC2 (0171-836 8888/cc 836 0479) Tube/BR: Charing X/Embankm

oron-Sat 7.30pm, (7] 2.30pm, ends 27 Mar. £10-£27.50. ROYAL NATIONAL THEATRE COTTESLOE: The Riot Nick Darke's drama from Kneehigh Theatre. In

rep, tonight 7.30pm, ends 28 Apc. OLIVIER: Troilus and Cressida John Caird and Trevor Nunn direct Shakespeare's reinvention of Homer. In rep. tonight 7pm, ends May 19. 150 mins. Ofivier, £8-£27. Cottesloe: £12-£18. South Bank, SE1 (0171-452

3000) BR/O Waterloo. ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY

THE PIT: Goodnight Children Everywhere An evacuee returns home at the end of the war and after the death of his parents in Richard Nelsoo's moving drama. In rep, tonight 7.15pm, ends 27 Apr. The Pit: £11-£18.50. Barbican Centre, EC2

(0171-638 8891) BR/ Barbican. ■ YOUNG VIC: Bartholomew Fair Jonson's intensely theatrical drama in a vibrant revival. In rep, tonight 7.15pm. RSC at the Young Vic. £14-£20. The Cut, S£1 (0171-928 6363) BR/O Waterloo.

SATURDAY NIGHT FEVER Hit 1970s musical featuring legendar songs by the Bee Gees, London Palm Argyli Street. W1 (0171-494 5020) Oxford Circ. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4][7] 2.30pm. £10-£32.50. 135 mins.

D SHOCKHEADED PETER Junk opera featuring the Tiger Lillies. Lyric Hammersmith King Street. W6 £5-£18. (0181-741 2311) ⊕ Hammersmith. Mon-Sat 7.30pm. [7] 2.30pm, ends 10 Apr.

O SLAVAS SNOWSHOW Slava Polomine returns to London with his mesmeric show that takes all ages back to the resims of childish delicity Piccadilly Denman Street, W1 (0171-369 1734) & Picc Circ, Mon-

Sat 7.30pm, [5)[7] 2.30pm. £10-F77 50. ) STARLIGHT EXPRESS Andrew Lloyd Webber's hi-tech roller-musi-cal. Apollo Victoria Wilton Road, SW1 (0171-416 6070) BR/© Victoria. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [3][7] 3pm. £12.50-£30. 150 mins.

TRUST Gary Mitchell's explosive new drama. Royal Court Upstairs [at The Ambassadors) West Street, WC2 (0171-565 5000) & Leic Sq. Mon-Sat 7pm, ends 3 Apr. £10,

concs £5. ● VASSA Howard Davies directs a new stage version of Maxim Gorky's tale of a matriarch and her don trodden family. Albery 5t March's Lane, WC2 (0171-369 1730) & Le-

ic Sq. Mon-Sat 7.30pm. (5)(7) 3pm. ends 27 Mar. £5-£29.50. THE WEIR Copor McPherson's drama is set in Ireland and exam ideas of ghosts and angels. Royal Court Downstairs (at the Duke Of York's) St Martin's Lane, WCZ (0171-S65 5000) & Lelc Sq/Charing X. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4][7] 3.30pm. E5-£25. 90 mins.

• WEST SIDE STORY Brand new production of Bernstein's classic musical, attempting to recreate the feel of the original Broadway hit. Prince of Wales Coventry Street, WI (0171-839 5987) & Leic Sq/Picc Circ. Mon-Sat 7.45pm. (5)[7] 3pm. £18.50-£35. 160 mins.

O WHISTLE POWN THE WIND Lloyd Webber's new musical based on the film of the same name. Aldwych Aldwych, WC2 (0171-416 6000/cc 836 2428) & Holborn. Mon-Sat 7.45pm. (5)(7( 3pm. £10-£32.50. 120 mins.

£18,50-£35, 160 mins.

THE WOMAN IN BLACK Susan Rul's chilling ghost story. Fortune Russell Street, WC2 (0171-836 2238/cc 344 4444) & Covert Gar-den. Mon-Sat 8pm. (3) 3pm. (7) 4pm. £8.50-£23.50, 110 mins.

#### THEATRE **BEYOND THE WEST END**

ALMEIDA THEATRE Speer Klans Maria Brandaner makes his English speaking debut in Esther Vilar's tantalising oew drama Mon-Sat 7.30pm, mats Sat 3pm, ends 27 Mar, £9.50-£19.50, concs available. Almeida Street, N1 (0171-359 4404) - Angel,

BAC Gambiers Gogel's comedy about a gambier's attempts to make his fortune. Tue-Sat 8,15pm, Sun 4pm & 6pm, ends 28 Mar. £10, concs £6, Tue pay what you can. Lavender Hitt, SW11 (0171-223 2223) BR: Clapham Junction. THE BRIDEWELL BACKBRACK:

Lost and Found & Amsterdam Musical double-bill featuring classic numbers alongside the songs of Jacques Brel. 13, 16-19 Mar. 8pm, mat 14 Mar. 3.30pm, ends 3 Apr. £10-£12, concs £7 £9, Bride Lane, Fleet Street, ECA (0171-936 3456) 8R/O Blackfriars,

DRAYTON COURT THEATRE Abigail's Party Mile Leigh's suburban drama. Mon-Thur 7.45pm. mats Sun 3pm, ends 18 Mar. £7. The Avenue, W13 (0181-991 1722) BR: West Ealing. GREENWICH THEATRE Hamlet

Thought-provoking production of this potent thriller. Mon-Sat

7.30pm, mats Wed & Sat 2pm, ends 27 Mar, £12, concs £7,50. Crooms Hill, SE10 (0181-853 4444) BR: Greenwich. HACKNEY EMPIRE Girls' Night

Out Raucous hen-night comedy by Dave Simpson, Mon-Sat 8pm, ends 27 Mar. E7.50-£14.50. Mare Street, E8 (0181-985 2424) BR: Hackney Central. LYRIC STUDIO Take the Fire Jean

Cocteau's quartet of plays written for Edith Plat. Mon-Sat 8pm, ends 27 Mar. £10, concs £5, Mon all seats £5. King Street, W6 (0181-741 2311) & Hammersmith, RICHMOND THEATRE Things We Do For Love Belinda Lang stars in Alan Ayekhouru's cheriahed comedy.

Mon-Fri 7.45pm, mats Wed & Sat

2.30pm, ends 20 Mar. £8-£21. The Green, Richmond, Surrey (0181-940 0088) + Richmond. TRISTAN BATES THEATRE. THE ACTORS CENTRE The Killer Jonesco's highly experimental black comedy. Mon-Sat 8pm, ends 20 Mar. E8, concs £6. Tower Street, WCZ (0171-240 3940)

& Leicester Square. TRICYCLE THEATRE Paddy Irishman, Paddy Englishman and Paddy...? Declan Croghan's new piece looking at the male of the species. Mon-Fri 8pm, Sai species. Mon-Fri 8pm, Sat 8.15pm, mats Sat 4.15pm, ends

Mar. £8-£13.50, Kilbum Road, NW6 (0171-328 WIMBLEDON THEATRE Lanza The Last Serenade A musical tribute to legendary singer Mario Lanza, 15-20 Mar, 7.30pm, mat Lanza, 15-20 Mar, 7.30pm, mat 18 Mar, 2.30pm, £9-£17.50. The Broadway, SW19 (0181-540 0362)

#### THEATRE COUNTRYWIDE

THEATRE ROYAL Sleyth Peter Bowles and Michael Maloney star in Anthony Shaffer's ingenious and inventive thriller. To Mar. £9-£22.50. Sawclose (01225-448844)

BILLINGHAM BILLINGHAM FORUM Junk Adaptation of Melvin Burgess' controversial novel about a group of you people in the 1980s, caught up in a cul-ture of drug abuse and prostitution. 15, 19-20 Mar, 7.30pm, 16-20 Mar 1.30pm. £7-£8. concs available. Town Centre (01642-552663)

ALEXANORA THEATRE Oliver! Gary Wilmot stars in Lionel Bart's Dickeosian musical. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, mats Wed & Sat 2.30pm ends 19 Jun. £10-£32.50. Suffoli Street (0121-643 1231)

THE DOOR - BIRMINGHAM REP STUCIO Trips Sarah Woods' new play uses a combination of live performance and video to examine where we are in life and where we are going, Mon-Sat 7.45pm, ends 20 Mar. £9, concs £6. Broad Street (0121-236 4455)

## FIRST CALL, LAST CALL

First Call BING-BONG! - the latest collaboration between Keith Waterhouse and Ned Sherrin - has started its tour in Chester Starring Dennis Waterman (right) and Patrick Mower, it is a comedy about the intricacies of comedy. Whether the on-stage writing duo Bell and Banks are victims or perpetrators of their brand of humour, the play exposes the slights, slanders, trials and tribulations of their creative world. It's an amusing and insightful investigation into the bleakness beneath their banter. The Chester Gateway Theatre (01244-340 392) to 27 Mar. Tour continues to 19 Jun

BRISTOL

NEW VIC STUDIO Dusty Fruit

NEW THEATRE Happy Days Those lovable characters from the TV se-

ries are brought to life on stage.

Tonight 5.30pm & 8.30pm, ends 20 Mar. £8-£18.50, concs available.

EVERYMAN THEATRE Smokey Joe's Care Rockmon hit makers cel

ebrated in a musical revue that in

chides "Jailhouse Rock". Phone for times. ends 20 Mar. £7.50-£20. Regent 5treet (01242-572573)

CHICHESTER FESTIVAL THEATRE

Loot Michael Elphick and Letitia Dean star in Joe Orton's black

comedy. Tonight 7.30pm, ends 20 Mar. £6.50-£21. Oaklands Park

MERCURY THEATRE The La

ers who use the house of a little

Park Place (01222-878889)

(0117-987 7877)

CHELTENHAM

CHICHESTER

(01243-781312)

COLCHESTER

Last Call EIGHTIES POP SENSATION Howard Jones's nationwide tour started last month with a sold-out London date. The synthesiser genius, who sold seven million records at the height of his fame, has just released a new album. People. Like New Order and Art of Noise, Howard Jones pioneered pop-electronics, but this time round, the sound has been replaced by up-to-date reggae vibes. Riverside, Neucastle (0191-261 4386) 15 Mar. Fleece & Firkin, Bristol (0117-929 9008) 20 Mar, Waterfront, Norwich (01603 764764) 28 Mar; The Junction, Cambridge (01223-511511) 29 Mar

#### **EXHIBITIONS** HIPPODROME THEATRE Phantom of the Opera Tour of Andrew Lloyd Webber's huge hit musical. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, mats Wed & Sat 2.30pm, ends 22 May. £10-£30. concs available. St Augustines Pa-rade (0117-929 9444)

BATH THE ROYAL PHOTOGRAPHIC SO-CIETY Between Two Worlds: Pio-neering British Women Photographers Including the work of Madam Yevonde and Julia Margaret Tense drama about a haunted house teetering perilously on the edge of a rapidly crumbling cliff. Tonight 8pm, ends 20 Mar. E9, concs E6. King Street On the Water Silvia Ferran and

Christian Ynaraja Artists from Barcelona present a series of large Memory and Skin: Joy Gregory Interactive photographic installa-tion. Mon-Sun 9.30am-5.30pm. ends 21 Mar. £2.50. concs £1.75. The Octagon Galleries. Milsom Street (01225-462841)

BRIGHTON BRIGHTON MUSEUM AND ART GALLERY Mary Potter (1900-1981) Retrospective of the artist's largely figurative paintings. Mon, Tue, Thur-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 2pm-5pm, ends 28 Mar, free. Church 5treet (01273-290900)

ARNOLFINI Accelerator Work by an microational group of contemporary artists, including Hilary Lloyd,
Also Sasso and Suzy Spence. Mon-Sat
10am-7pm, Sun 12noon-6pm,
ends 28 Mar, free. Narrow Quay (0117-929 9191)

dykillers Adaptation of the 1955 Ealing Comedy classic about a group of

old lady to plan a job. Mon-Wed 7.30pm, Thur-Sar 8pm, ends 27 Mar, £7.50-£15,50, concs available. Balkerne Gate (01206-573948) LONDON EASTBOURNE CONGRESS THEATRE Barnum Roll up for Peter Duncan's performance in this classic musical. Phone for times. £8-£19.50, concs available. haran Africa.

Compton Street (01323-412000) NORTHCOTT THEATRE Buried Alive Phillip Osment's play about a photographer who captures a par-ticularly herrific execution on film. Mon-Fri 7.30pm, Sat 8pm, ends 27 Mar. £7-£15. Stocker Road

(01392-493493) YVONNE ARNAUD THEATRE Earth and 5ky Thriller about a librarian who thinks she knows her boyfrien well - until there is a murder and his murky past is revealed, starring Samantha Janus stars. Tonight 7.45pm, mats Thur & Sat 2.30pm ends 20 Mar. £10-£20.50, con available. Milibrook (01483-440000)

NORWICH THEATRE ROYAL Antony and Cleopatra Michael Bogdanov di-rects Cathy Tyson in this new pro-duction by the English Shakespeare Company. Tonight 7.30pm, end 20 Mar. E3-£15.50, concs available Theatre 5treet (01503-630000)

PLAYHOUSE THEATRE The Weis Conor McPherson's drams is set in Ireland and examines ideas of ghosts and angels. Tonight 7.30pm, mats Thur & Sat 2.30pm, ends 20 Mar. £8.£19,50, concs available Beautilians. mont Street (01865-798500)

PETERBOROUGH PETERSOROUSH
KEY THEATRE A Touch of Danger
Stage version of the popular thriller
by Francis Durbridge, Tonight Spm.
mat Thur 2.30pm, ends 20 Mar. EBE10.50, concs available Embankment Road (01733-552439)

PONTYPRIDO MUNI ARTS CENTRE A Kiss on the Bottom Comedy set in a female hospital ward. Tonight 7.30pm. E6, concs £5. Gelliwastad Road (01443-485934)

READING THE MILL AT SONNING LAURA Stage adaptation of the 1940s film thriller, Mon-Sat 8,15pm, mats Sat 2.15pm (lunch 12,30pm), ends 27 Mar. £21.95-£32.95 Incl meal. Sonning Eye (0118-969 8000)

SALISBURY PLAYHOUSE The House of Bernarda Afba Frederico Garcia Lorca's study of conflict be tween a grieving mother and he daughters. Tonight 8pm, mat Thur 2.30pm, ends 20 Mar. E8-E15, concs available Malthouse Lane (01722-320333)

STAMFORD ARTS CENTRE Rock'n'Roll and Barbirolli Two exoffenders struggle to come to terms with their past crimes and luture lives in Michael Wilcox's new play, 15 & 16 Mar. 8pm. E6.50, concs £5. 5t. Marys Street (01780-763203)

STRATFORD-UPON-AVON THE OTHER PLACE The Dispute Mariveux's quasi-scientific drama directed by Neil Bartlett, Mon-Sai 7.30pm, mat 5at 2.30pm, ends 20 Mar. £10-£19, concs available Southern Lane (01789-295623)

WYVERN THEATRE On the Pisto John Godber's raunchy comedy gives us a revealing insight into skiing holidays. Contains mudity. Tonight 7.30pm. E8.50-£10.50. Theatre Square (01793-524481) Marble sculpture linking St Ives with Montserrat. Mon-Sat 11am-7pm, Sun 11am-5pm, ends 11 Apr. £3.50, concs £2, Porthmeor Beach

### CLASSICAL

LONDON BARBICAN HALL LSO/Previn Gala

8891) & Moorgate.

BRVO Waterloo.

ROYAL ALBERT MEMORIAL MUSEUM The Art of Hilda Cartine: Mrs Stanley Spencer The first ma-jor exhibition dedicated to the paintings of Spencer's first wife, Mon-Sat 10am-Spm, ends 3 May, free, Queen Street (01392-265858)

BARBICAN ART GALLERY Africa by Africa: A Photographic View More than 200 images from sub-Sa-

haran Africa.
Picasso and Photography: The Dark Mirror Numerous works explore the Spanish master's relationship with photography. Mon. Thur-Sat 10am-6.45pm, Tue 10am-5.45pm, Wed 10am-7.45pm, Sun 12noon-6.45pm, and 20 Mars Comments 20 Mars Comments. 6.45pm, ends 29 Mar. £5, cones £3, from Mon-Fri E3 after 5pm, 5ilk Street. EC2 (0171-638 4141) O Barbican

DESIGN MUSEUM Mint: 40 Years of a Design kun Mini's designed by celebrities mark the 40th anniversary of the vehicle. Ends 9 May Modern Britain 1927-1939 A study on the important period after the Great War including the work of Francis Bacon, Paul Nash and Barbara Hepworth. Phone for dmes, ends 18 Jul. E5.25, concs £4 (to museum). Shad Thames, 5E 378 6055) & Tower Hill

Ingres Major exhibition of paintings and drawings by the 19th-century Freech artist. Mon & Tue, Thur-Sun 10am-6pm, Wed 10am-10pm, ends 25 Apr. £6, concs £4. Wed 7pm-10pm. £4. Orazio Gentileschi at the Court of Charles 1 Rare exhibition exploring the work of the 17th-century Italia artist. Mon & Tue, Thur-Sun 10am

NATIONAL GALLERY Portraits by

6pm, Wed 10am-9pm, ends 23 May, free. Trafalgar Square, WC2 (0171-747 2885) ← Charing Cross ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS Mon ec in the 20th Century Eighty paintings made in the 26 years after 1900, Mon-Thur. Sun 9am-6pm, Fri & Sat 9am-10pm, ends 18 Apr. E9, concs

E6. child (12-18) E3, child (8-11) E1.50. Burlington House, Piccadil-ly, W1 (0171-300 8000/413 1717) Green Park/Piccadilly Circus TATE GALLERY Art Now 17: Thomas Demand's Tunnel Looped film of travel in a tunnel explores urban life. Ends 25 Apr. free Works on Paper and Paintings:
Francis Bacon Paintings and
drawings previously kept secret.
Ends 2 May, free.

Pharmacy: Damien Hirst Installa-tion exploring modern medicine. Ends 2 May, free. Scrapheap Services: Michael Landy Installation of mannequins. Ends

2 May, free Jackson Poliock Major retrospective of the Abstract Expressionst, Ends 6 Jun. £7.50, concs £5 (Firstcall 0870 842 2233 + £1.50 booking fee) Turner's Last Papers 1820-51 Examining the paper Turner used for his later work. Ends 13 Jun, free. Dangerous Liasons: Barbara Hep-worth and Ben Nicholson Examming the cross fertilisation of the couple. Ends 11 Jul, free.

Dangerous Liasons: Rodin and

Gwen John Exploring the relation-ship between the artist lovers, Mon-

Sun 10am-5.50pm, ends 11 Jul, free. Milibank, SW1 (0171-887 8000) NORWKH NORWICH ARTS CENTRE India 50 - Working People: Sebastiae Sal-gado The acclaimed pholographer portrays the harsh reality of Indian

ife. Mon-Fri 10am-5pm, Sat 11am-

4pm, ends 8 Apr, free, Reeves Yard,

5t Benedict's Street (01603-660352) ST IVES TATE GALLERY Displays

1998-9: Partnerships and Practice Works from the second half of the Quoit Montserrat: Veronica Ryan

concert featuring Beethoven's Violin Concerto played by Anne-Sophie Mutter. Tonight 7.30pm. £15-£60. Barbican Centre. EC2 (0171-638

PURCELL ROOM Endymion En semble Gavin Bryars' personal choice of music. Tonight 8pm. £7-£12, concs £5. South Bank, 5£1 (0171-960 4242) BR/@ Waterloo. OUFEN ELIZABETH HALL London

Concert Choir/Forkgen Brahms' AGerman Requiem. Toright 7.45pm. E9-E17. South Bank Centre, SE1 (0171-960 4242) BR/O Waterloo. ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL CBSO/Rattle Nicholas Maw's epic work Odyssey. Tonight 7.30pm. £5-£11, South Bank, S£1 (0171-960 4242)

WIGMORE HALL Peter Donohoe Bach, Bartok and Beethoven. Today 1pm, E7, concs £5. Muza Rubackyte The pianist per-forms Beethoven and Schumann. Tonight 7.30pm, £7-£14, Wigmon Street, W1 (0171-935 2141)

#### DANCE

RHODA MCGAW THEATRE, PEA-COCK CENTRE RIC Dance: Jus Eazy Innovative reggae dance. Tonight 7,45pm, E8, concs £6. Chric Way (01483-761144)

WOLVERHAMPTON GRAND THEATRE St Petersburg Ballet Theatre With Stars Of The Kirov Ballet: Don Quixote Narrative ballet depicting ardent heroism in a dishonourable age. Tonight 7.30pm. £8.50-£20.50. Lichfield Street (01902-429212)

## LITERATURE

EGHAM CIVILISING THE CENTAUR Proor Alison Brown's inaugural lecture examines the evolution of sauce Man, and is followed by a reception in the Picture Gallery. Royal Holloway & Bedford New College Egham Hill (01784-434455). Today 5.30pm, free.

THE GREEN AND THE GOLD Frances Quinn tells the story of the legendary Ulster hero, Cuchulainn. Torriano Meeting House Torriano Avenue NW5 (0171-267 2751) & Kentish Town. Tonight 8pm. E7.

### COMEDY

concs £3.

CHELTENHAM PILLAR TALK COMEDY AT PILLAR ROOM, TOWN HALL Milton Jones, Roger Monkhouse and circus cabaret bizarro Martin BigPig. Tonight 8.30pm. £6.50, adv £5.50. Imperial Square (01242-227979)

LONDON THE MONDAY CLUB AT MADAME JO JO'S, Featuring Jason Byrne, Mary Bourke, Shan, Logan Murray, plus very special guest and MC Ron-nie Rigsby. Tonight 9pm. £6, concs £5. Brewer Street, W1 (0171-734 2473) ← Piccadilly Circus. THE COMEDY STORE Irish Night

starring Michael Smiley, Oweo O'Neill, Kevin Gildea, Jason Byrne, Kevin Hayes, Ed Bannoo and Ed Byrne, plus live music. Foright Sprn. £12. Oxendon 5treet, SWI (0171. 344 0234) O Piccadilly Circus. WATFORO

GOODNESS GRACIOUS ME AT THE COLOSSEUM Award-winning comedy sketch show starring Meera Syal, Sanjeev Bhasker, Kulvinder Ghir and Nina Wadier. Tonight 7.30pm. £12.50-£14.50. Rickmansworth Road (01923-445000)

**CLUBS** OISCO BARBIE AT THE HONEY CLUB Stamming disco tunes from the

last three decades, free to the fanci-

ly dressed. Tonight 10pm-2.30am. £3, concs £1. King's Road Arches

(01273-202807) LONDON THAT'S HOW IT IS AT BAR RUMBA Gilles Peterson and Ben Wilcox play rough seventies funk, jungle, East Coast hip hop and West Coast sounds. Tonight 10pm-3am. £3. Shaftesbury enue, W1 (0171-287 2715) O Piccadilly Circus.

HEADSET AT POINT 101 Easy-listening rhythms, ultra lounge and bossa nova rarities brought to you by The Karminsky Experience. Youlght 8.30pm-late, free. New Oxford Street, W1 (0171-379 3112) O Tottenham Court Road

### **EVENTS**

LONDON THE 88TH CHELSEA ANTIQUES THE 881H CHELSEA ANTIONALS
FAIR Antiques and line art from 46
reputable dealers. Chelsea Old Town
Half King's Road 5W3 (01444482514) © Sloane Square. Mon-Fri
11am-8pm. Sat 11am-7pm, Sun
11am-5pm, ends 21 Mar, £6.

PLAYDAYS - WHY BIRD'S LUCKY NUMBER Plenty of songs and cames for ages two to seven with Arts Centre Kingland Road (01202-685222) 15 & 16 Mar. 1,15pm & 4.30pm, £4.90.

### **MUSIC**

BIRMINGHAM DENNIS LOCORRIERE Soloouting by the former singer with 1970s disco cowboys Dr Hook Ronnie Scott's Broad Street (0121-643 4525) Mar 15 & 16. 8pm. £12.50, concs £7.50.

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THE ULTRA MONTANES Fast-rising indie glam-pop outfit. The Albert Trafalgar Street (01273-730499) Tonight 8pm. SYMPOSIUM, FUNGUS Boister-

BRIGHTON

ous post Brit mise pop, with Swedish pop-metal support. The Point Rich-mond Place (01273-702333). Torlight 8.30pm. BRISTOL ORBITAL A much anticipated and long-awaited return to live action by the British techno scene-leaders.

Colston Hail Colston Street (0117-

922 3686/cc 922 3683) Tonight 7.30pm. £12. GLOUCESTER ROGER TAYLOR The flaxen-baired drummer of Queen tours his recent olo album, Electric Fire. Guildhall

Arts Centre Eastgate Street (01452-505089) Yonight 8,30pm. £10. GUILDFORD PETER LOCKETT ANO JOJI HIRO-TA - FROM TAIKO TO TABLA inique and powerful fusion of diverse international percussion musics. Electric Theatre Onslow Street

(01483-444789) Tonight 7,30pm. £8, concs £3. ILFRACOMBE FAIRPORT CONVENTION Dave Pegg's ever-popular English folk-rock-ing favourites. The Landmark The Promenade, Wilder Road (01271-865655/cc 01271-324242) Tonight

TRIBUTE TO NOTHING, OBH A double bill of hardcore noise and grindcore. Barfly at the Fal-con Royal College Street. NW1 (0171-482 4808) & Camden Town.

Tonight 8pm, phone for prices. CREED Intense US grunge rockers making an oddly low-key British ap-pearace. The Borderline Manette pearace. The Borbernite Marie Street, W1 (0171-734 2095) Tottenham Court Road. Tonight 7pm. £7.50.

#### **MUSIC** JAZZ, WORLD, FOLK

GETZ-GILBERTO TRIBUTE Invocation of the great 1960s bossa nova boom. The Lift Queens Road (O1273-730515) Tonight 8.30pm.

CUIT BOYS Madcan Kansas swing and R&B outfit. 100 Club Oxford Street W1 (0171-636 0933) & Oxford Circus, Tonight 8pm. £6. GEOFF GASCOVNE, NICK WEL-DON Bass and piano-led modern jazz. 606 Club Lots Road \$8010 (0171-352 5953) @ Fulham Broad-

KING PLEASURE AND THE BIS-

LONDON

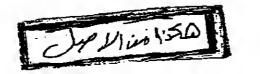
way/Earls Court. Yonight 9.30pm & 12mldnight. £4.95. SEYMOUR'S JUMP Trombonist Mark Seymour's swing and jump-five outfit. The Improv Toctenham Court Road W1 (0171-387 2414/cc 344 4444) O Warren Street, Tonight. 7.20pm, £7, mems £5.

JIMMY SMITH Return of the originai Hammond organ Cat Jazz Cafe Parkway NW1 (0171-916 6060). O Camden Town. Tonight 8.30pm. ends 20 Mar. £16, adv £13.50. ART FARMER/STAN TRACEY

QUARTET Lyrical trumpet and angular piano pairing. Pizza Express Jazz Club Dean Street, W1 (0171-439 8722) & Tottenham Cos Road, Tonight 8.30pm, £15. MORAG MCLAREN Scots vocalist and comedienne in cabaret. Pizza on the Park Knightsbridge, SW1 (0171-235 5273) & Hyde Park Cor-

ner Mar 15-20, 9.15pm &

11.15pm, £18, adv £16. NNENNA FREELON The Grammy nominated vocalist in UK debut. Ronnle Scott's Frith Street Wi (0171-439 0747) & Leicester Square. Tonight 9pm & 11.30pm, ends 20 Mar. £12, mems £4.



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There are too many question Loo Lamacq Live. See Pick of the this area to which answers are lay. 12.00 The Breezeblock. 2.00 Why do black have the law Warren. 4.00 - 6.30 Scott Why do black boys, said to black submissive to teachers. authority slavishly follow ther 88-90.2MHz FM )
Leuchers' expectations?

100 Alex Lester. 7.30 Sarah

if black boys are "boistenes, Gennedy, 9.36 Ken Bruce. 12.00 Why they that make any differency farmy Young. 2.00 Ed Stewart to school performance if 5.05 Johnnie Walker. 7.00 Big Why the state make any difference is 5.05 Johnnie Walker. 7.00 School performance if 5.05 Johnnie Walker. 7.00 Hausternusness and studiousle James Special. 8.30 Jools Holland. If Have cannot co-exist, what and Roll. 10.30 Richard Alinson. The ratuse of the boisterousness and Roll. 10.30 Richard Alinson. the raise of the boisterousees 12.00 Katrina Loskanich. 3.00 - lething have asking asking asking the boundary asking the bound Mid Should it be curbed?

It black boys' achievement would be improved by teacher making allowances for male of making allowances for make to reclube minerance should be made on Masterwork and Masterwork. Lambhan exaberance should so Masterworks.

he haveoural standards to bled 10.30 Artist of the Week.

Asken pupils in the same day.

12.00 Composer of the Week: Are Adam purents happing . Richard Strauss. their sous to be in the same in.00 The Radio 3 Lunchtime Con-classics in hesterous Africa Cert. Live from the Wigmore Hall, Standard Huches intro-If not are they guilty of any duces another recital in the series learning planets. Peter Klesvatyping\* Why do Indian and Chine featuring leading planists. Peter Donohoe (plano). Bach: French children, whose homes mark Suite No 5 in G, BWV816. Beethoven: Piano Sonata in A. Op

more culturally linguistical and religiously differenting 2 No 2 Bartos: Plant Confestions devasion of European school 2.00 The BBC Orchestras. 2 No 2 Bartok: Piano Sonata culture than the homes of the 4.00 Opera in calculations of arithmen state. and African Caribbean children 5.00 in Tune. English schools 7.30 Performance on 3. Live from Is the relatively poor

the Finlandia Hall, Helsinki, the secperformance of white loves mythology in music. Life Passikivi pois que la un estretaines (mezzo), Heikki Kilpelainen (barian airen errerenbing" But to white to know assumeds tone), Polytechnic Men's Chorus,

an additionally arrows facions Finnish RSO/Sakari Oramo, Klami: how arther control of blackbox Lemminkainen's Adventures in Saari. Sibelius: Kullervo. RECHARD WILKINS 9.15 Postscript. An idiosyncratic Asset Control of Charles and an incidental history of loving, told by dancers and thinkers. 1: The Classical distancers and thinkers. sic'. For romantics, some Swan

Sir I car a supposited buse nated at the rather Apple po Were while partitions details the modernment of the contact restrine the second three of Determine :: Manhiber William of the world mentilen er ib. it er die bigbi COUNTY FORES Many to a rear other w

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Tricks of the trade

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Showdown in Little Tokyo (1991) (8255581). 5.30 - 7.00 Desperate (1947) (64719). then districtly all the models and SKY CHEMA Waish to a read weeps 4.00 Destination Gobi (1953) (9378283). 5.30 Howards End (1991) (2014689). 8.00 The Seven-Ups (1973) (2432825 when place and the complete Mary denounces of a new

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Angeles to the second second second

March Charles 1 1 100 - 100

10.00 Rebecca (1940) (12551370). 12.10 Days of Glory (1944) (19951500). 1.40 1.1(Duintet (1979) (2884142). 3.40 The Glass 1. Menagerie (1950) (6678055). 5.25 Close MATERIAL PROPERTY OF STREET Mary water of the way Commerce College May the to the stand FILMFOLIR 6.00 His Girl Friday (1940) (40440196). 7.35 Lovely (2806554), 8.00 1984 (1984) (87164776), 9.40 Treyor (7051370), 10.45 -- 1211 23 (4 ) (5 ) (5 ) (6 ) (6 ) (6 ) (7 ) Service and the service of the servi Maurice (1987) (48708844). See Pick of the Day. 12.40 Another Country (1984) (9858177). 2.10 Sunday (1464055). 3.40 - 6.00 Before Sunday (1995) yar Oler Trade Committee the mention of the district per attache Programme of the control of the cont

DISCOVERY CHANNEL 4.00 Rex Hunt's Fishing Adventures (1013047). 4.30 A River Somewhere (1002931). 5.00 Hitler (7538842). 6.00 Wildlife SOS (1090196). 6.30 Untamed Africa (3916283), 7.30. The Quest (6388509). 8.30 The Supernatural (1138808). 9.00 Killer Quake (8720979). 10.00 Amazing Fights (9683689, 12.00 The Great Egyptians (9307719), 1.00 Hitler (3208910), 2.00 Close,

9.35 Bach and Shostakovich, Offi

Mustonen (piano) plays preludes

and fugues from the first book of

6.00 Last Stand at Saber River (1997)

6.00 Last Stand at Saber River (1997) (79663937). 7.35 Evita (1996) (86336738). 9.50 The Thi Soldier (1995) (27454641). 11.30 Last Stand at Saber River (1997) (96006485). 1.15 Evita (1996) (19402554). 3.30 Barry Norman's Fitm Night (8689). 4.00 The Tin Soldier (1995) (1405). 6.00 Little Monsters (1996) (10436399). 10.25 [Jine Untouchables (1987) (622689). 12.25 [Jine Untouchables (1987) (622689). 12.25 [Jine Untouchables (1987) (822689). 12.30 [Jine Untouchables (1987) (822689). 12.35 [Jine Untouchables (1988) (822689). 12.35 [Jine Untouchables (1988) (822689). 12.35 [Jine Untouchables (1988) (822689). 12.35 [J

Some Mother's Son (1996) (58701535).

7.00 Ferrmes Patales (30467), 7.30

Movie Magic (1401134). 8.15 Action He-

roes (2126912). **9.00** Coyote Summer (996) (80216). **11.00** Ed (1996) (95028). **1.00** Fermines Fatales (39738). **1.30** 

Heroes (7624467), See Pick of the Day.

3.00 Desperate (1947) (10486). 5.00 Coyote Summer (1996) (37221). 7.00 Ed

(1996) (77283). **8.30** Joe's Apartment (1996) (59912). **10.00** Movietalk Special

(32127), **11.00** Bound (1997) (760573).

Home Invasion (1997) (8344926). 4.10

12.50 Next of Kin (1989) (317516), 2.40

Movie Medic (5589776), 2:15 Action

SKY PREMER

SKY MOVEMAX

Bach's 'The Well-Tempered Clavier'

## MONDAY RADIO

#### PICK OF THE DAY

JOHN CLIFFORD'S Afternooo in Lamacq Live (8pm R1). Over Play: Letters from a Strange on Radio 4, by way of complete Land (2.15pm R4) is based on the 16th-century missives of Will Adams, the first Englishman to end up in Japan, to his wife. His astonished observations have a delirious charm as well as a telling air of solitude – be never made it back to his Kent home. alongside new-fangled ideas Britpop's great survivors, Bhur

(right), provide an unmissable set

and from Shostakovich's 24 Pre-

10.00 Voices, lain Burnside pre-

Schumann and Schwarzkopf to

grammes trawling through 75 years of Schubert lieder recordings, from

10.45 Mixing It. Mark Russell and

Robert Sandall introduce an all-CD

sents the second of two pro-

ludes and Fugues, Op 87.

Pears and Schreier

edition.

contrast, there's a feature on Ushaw College, a seminary for the training of Roman Catholic priests, Men in Black (8pm R4) eavesdrops on campus life, where such medieval ousterities as o ban on kettles in bedrooms sit like "women"

DOMINIC CAVENDISH



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meets best-selling writer Wilbur Smith 7.45 The Cry of the Bittern. An ennow has to find out how it got there. With Rachel Atkins, Sean Vanessa Whitburn. (21/30). 8.00 NEWS; Men in Black. 'A

11.30 Jazz Notes. 12.00 Composer of the Week: Frederick Delius. (R) 1.00 - 6.00 Through the Night. RADIO 4 92.4-94.6MHz FM 6.00 Today. 9.00 NEWS; Start the Week.

9.45 Serial: Letters from My Wind-10.00 NEWS; Woman's Hour. 11.00 NEWS; Tuning Into Children. 11.30 King of Bath. 12.00 NEWS; You and Yours. 12.57 Weather 1.00 The World at One. 1.30 Counterpoint.

2.15 Afternoon Play: Letters from e Strange Land. See Pick of the Day. 3.00 NEWS; Money Box Live: 0870 010 0444. 3.30 Carnival Tales. 3.45 This Sceptred Isle. (P) 4.00 The Food Programme. 4.30 Turning World 5.00 PM 6.00 Six O'Clock News.

2.00 NEWS; The Archers.

6.30 Just e Minute. 7.00 NEWS; The Archers. 7.15 Front Row, Mark Lawson chairs the arts programme, and

vironmental drama by Tim Jackson. Having discovered the contaminant in the Tibbetts' water supply. Laura Baker and Eric Pepperell. Director Place Apart'. In the first of three programmes, Rosemary Hartill explores daily life in Ushaw College, Co Durham, one of only five Roman Catholic seminaries in Britain today. Built nearly 200 years ago, it was once home to hundreds of young men being trained as priest. Today, the college struggles with small numbers and an uncertain future. See Pick of the Day. 8.30 Analysis. 'Richer but Poorer'?' We are much wealthier than in the

past, but what do we mean by wealth? Andrew Dilnot asks if the way we think about what makes us rich may be making us poor, 9.00 NEWS; Nature, 'The Island Laboratory', isolated from the mainland, offshore islands are both breeding grounds for unique species and laboratories of extravagant evolution. But these islands are also fragile havens, vulnerable to human exploitation leading to mass destruction and extinction. 9.30 Start the Week, Jeremy Paxman and his guests set the cultural agenda for the week. 10.00 The World Tonight, With

Robin Lustig. 10.45 Book at Bedtime: Strait Is

SATELLITE AND CABLE

Michael Douglas is a rare

Oscar-winning performance as

the reptilian financier Gordon

Gekko in Wall Street - is charted

in today's Action Heroes (2.15pm

JAMES RAMPTON

Sky Moviemax).

PICK OF THE DAY

IT MAY BE hard to recall now, to come to terms with their

but there was a time before homosexuality in the repressive

just another floppy-haired posh example of a Hollywood child

young British actor. He stars who has lived up to the standards

with James Wilby and Rupert set by a celebrity parent. His

Graves in Manrice (10.15pm career - which includes an

Four Weddings and a Funeral climate of Edwardian Britain.

the Gate David McKail reads Andre Gide's story of lost love. Translated

by Dorothy Bussy, abridged by

Morag Lyall (1/5). (R) 11.00 The Prettiest Girl in Texas. By Sebastian Baczkiewicz, In a defuxe motel room on the outskirts of Dallas, Brenda and her brother Cort wait impatiently for the errival of a very special client. But Brenda. once voted the prettiest girl in Texas, is getting cold feet. With Stuart Milligan and Laurel Lefkow Director Claire Grove. 11.30 Crossing Over. (R) 12.00 News. 12.30 The Late Book: The Mask of Command (R)

12.48 Shipping Forecast. 1.00 As World Service. 5.30 World News. 5.35 Shipping Forecast. 5.40 Inshore Forecast. 5.45 Prayer for the Day. 5.47 - 6.00 Farming Today. **RADIO 4 LW** 

(198kHz) 9.45 - 10.00 Daily Service, 12.00 12.04 News; Shipping Forecast. 5.54 - 5.57 Shipping Forecast. 11.30 - 12.00 Today in Parliament.

**RADIO 5 LIVE** (693, 909kHz MW) 6.00 Breakfast. 9.00 Nicky Campbell. 12.00 The Midday News. 1.00 Ruscoe and Co. 4.00 Drive. 7.00 News Extra. 7.30 Dream Teams. Bill Kenwright, an avid Everton fan, talks to Jim

amity life in Britain, Is the nuclear family the best environment for bringing up children? Andrew Neil and an all-star panel debate the issues head on. 10.00 Late Night Live. Nick Robin-

son sets tomorrow's agenda today. including at 10.30 a full round-up of the day's sport, and at 11.00 a late news briefing. 100 Up All Night 5.00 - 6.00 Morning Reports.

CLASSIC FM

have graced Goodison Park. 8.00 The Family. A special pro-gramme examining the future of

(100.0-101.9MHz FM ) 6.00 Nick Balley. 9.00 Michael Mappin. 12.00 Requests. 2.00 Concerto. 3.00 Jamie Crick. 6.30 Newsnight, 7.00 Smooth Classics at Seven. 9,00 Evening Concert: Music by members of the Bach family. C P E Bach: Magnificat in D minor. Soloists, King's College Choir, ASMF/Philip Ledger. J C Bach: Quintet in D. English Concert J E Bach: Violin Sonata in F minor. Florilegium Ensemble, J.S. Bach: Orchestral Suite No 3 in D, BWV1068. Collegium Aureum/Franzjosef Maier. 11.00 Alan Mann. 2.00 Concerto. 3.00 6.00 Mark Griffiths. VIRGIN RADIO

(1215, 1197-1260kHz MW 105.8MHz 6.30 Chris Evans 9.30 Russ Williams. 1.00 Nick Abbot. 4.00 Harriet Scott. 6.45 London Calling with Harriet Scott/AM Pete and Ge off. 7.30 Pete and Geoff. 10.00 Mark Forrest, 1.00 Steve Power. 4.30-6.30 Richard Allen. **WORLD SERVICE RADIO** (198kHz LW)

LOO The World Today. 130 Westway. 1.45 Record News. 2.00 The World Today. 2.30 Warm World. 3.00 The World Today. 3.20 Sports Roundup. 3.30 World Business Report. 3.45 Insight. 4.00 -7.00 The World Today (4.00-7.00).

TALK RADIO 6.00 Big Boys Breakfast with David Banks & Nick Ferrari. 9.00 Scott Chisholm and Sally James. 12.00 Let's Talk Soap with ina Baker. 1.00 Anna Raebum -Live and Direct. 4.00 The Sport-Zone, 8.00 James Whale. 1.00 - 6.00 lan Collins.

Alternative: The Brittas Empire (2493757). 9.00 Casualty (27780221), 10.05 Secret Witness (8089958), 11.50 The Bill (1804912), 12.20 The Bill (6607239).

12.50 Black Adder the Third (8833061). 1.25 French and Saunders (9571581).

Shopping with Screenshop (8027500).

plus 2 (48996009). 6,40 Greedysaurus

and the Gang (98565689). 6.45 Philbert the Frog (98557660). 6.50 Polka Dot

Shorts (98545825), 7.00 Practical Parent-ing (3324592), 7.05 Professor Bubble

Bug Alert (7804979), 7.55 Practical Par-

enting (9912641). 9.00 Barney and

9283). 7.30 Caillou (6926047). 7.35

2.00 Dangerfield (8133264), 3.00 - 7.00

#### INDEPENDENT PURSUITS

### CHESS

JON SPEELMAN

ON WEDNESDAY, the minister for sport, Tony Banks, answered readers' questions in this section of the paper, including: "Why do you think chess should be made a recognised sport?" To which he replied: "Because it is already recognised in most of the European Union, and because we are very good at it."

This is music to the ears of a community that has always fallen between the two stools of sport and arts. Despite welcome funding for many years from the Department of Education and Science (alias the Department of National Heritage and latterly the Department for Culture Media and Sport) - while our counterparts in Scotland and Wales get their support from the Scottish and Welsh Offices - this uncertain identity has denied chess access to other sources of funding.

The Netional Lottery, for example, has funds earmarked both for "Heritage" and to support emerging sportsmen; hut we qualify as neither. Moreover, entry fees for all competitions, even including events for the youngest juniors. are subject to VAT.

There is a concerted campaign at the moment to change the status of the game. The Adjournment Debate in the House of Commoos this evening, to be opened by Dr Evan Harris, Liberal Democrat MP for Oxford West and Abingdon, will discuss the matter. And Gary Kasparov himself is confidently expected to attend a reception at the House of Commons oo 25 March, hosted by Dr Harris and Charlotte Atkins (Labour, Staffordshire Moorlands) and organised by the British Chess Federation and the portable chess computer manufacturers Saitek, sponsors of the England Junior squad to announce "serious support for a serious sport".

For all this heavyweight approval. you may still be wondering why on earth ao activity as apparently sedentary as chess should become a sport.

This is partly a question of definition. The relevant entry in my Chambers Dictionary is "a game, especially one involving bodily exercise." Certainly chess is what we now call a "mind sport". But there is also a considerable physical component, especially at a high level.

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In tournament play, you can have a pulse of well over 100 for a whole session of up to seven hours; and in the moments of greatest stress the tensioo can become almost uncontrollable, though in bad time trouble our chess reflexes are like a sprinter's.

The single combat of match play is even worse. During the week anda-half of our second match in 1991 - which he won by a whisker - Nigel Short lost o stone! It's not surprising, then, that the majority of the world's very tup players pay great attention not only to their technical chess preparation, but also to their physical condition.

In the end, it isn't even a question of linguistic niecties, but rather of simple common sense. It's surely only right that, like most of the rest of the world, and the vast majority of members of the European Union, we too should provide proper support for an activity that can be played by the very young and the very old, discharges aggression in a safe and acceptable manner, fosters concentration, and, above all, we are exceptionally good at.

Game all: dealer West

#### BRIDGE ALAN HIRON

THREE OF the players on this deal from rubber bridge gave rein to their imagination. As East, with little scope for brilliance, I had to be conteot with taking the setting trick and collecting a plus score.

West opened One Spade and North doubled. As you can see, a pass by South would have worked well but, as that might have proved dangerous, South bid One notrumps and West passed Now North had a problem - his partner had been given little room for manoeuvre and the range for his One no-trumps was, of oecessity, wide. Feeling that he was worth e forward move. North tried Two Spades (doubtless planning to pass a possible bid of Three of e minor). Most players would have stolidly bid Two oo-trumps oow but South. with his very safe spade guard and e better hand than he might have held, jumped to Three oo-trumps and all passed.

A spade lead did oot look attractive and West's choice of ♦2 proved a happy one. Dummy played low, I won with the jack and, with nothing better to do, returned 2. Declarer tried the nine and, after winning with his ace, my partner got off lead with 0 10. In South's eyes this did not appear inconsistent with an original hold-

North **VAQ109 QAK84 +**KJ94 West Fast **↑**A7653 +342 VK85 Ø742 OQJ5 01032 **♣**A Q **+**10765 Sooth **◆**K Q 10 9 **7163** 0976

ing of Q 10 xx, so he won on the table and unblocked with the nine, preparing for a later finesse. South continued with ♥ O from

dummy and West held off, \$\circ\$ 10 followed and again West held off for, otherwise, with an entry to hand, declarer would have had an easy run. Now South had four heart tricks but the lead was still in dummy. After cashing the hearts he exited with e low club to West's queen. West cashed the ace and led ♦ 3. Having already formed the wroog view of the diamond suit. declarer finessed dummy's eight and so lost to my now lone queen.

### because of its provocative content. They play three men struggling

when Hugh Grant (right) was

FilmFour). James Ivory's version

of the semi-autobiographical

novel by EM Forster, which was

only published posthumously

SKY ONE 7.00 Count Duckula (45399). 7.30 The Chris Evans Breakfast Show (48028) 8.30 Hollywood Squares (27844), 9.00 Sally Jessy Raphael (37931), 10.00 The Oprah Winfrey Show (53318), 11.00 Guiltyl (33554), 12.00 Jenny Jones (75979), 1.00 Mad about You (37370) (759/9). **1.00** Mai about for (3770). **1.30** Jeopardy (55/15). **2.00** Sally Jessy Rephael (91080). **3.00** Jenny Jones (84399). **4.00** Guilty! (76/34). **3.00** Star Trak: Voyager (8931). **6.00** America's Dumbest Criminals (2883). **6.30** Friends (3115). 7.00 The Simpsons (9660). 7.30 The Simpsons (9399). 6.00 Star Trek -Deep Space Nine (94026). 9.00 First Wave (57432). 10.00 Seinfeld (17979).

11.00 Friends (77863), 11.30 Star Trek: Voyager (51270), 12.30 The Commish (11608), 1.30 - 7.00 Long Play SKY SPORTS 1 7.00 Ford Footbell Special Middles-ZOU FOR FOODER Special Micross-brough v Southernton (17825), 6.30 The Snow Show (89285), 6.00 Recing News (94973), 9.30 Aerobics - Oz Style (21757), 10.00 Scottish Football Aberdeen v Celtic (95316). 11.00 Footbell League Review Crewe Alexandra vs Birm-Ingham City (75554). 12.00 Aerobics -Oz Style (90399). 12.30 What e Weekend (25573). 1.00 Ford Football Special Middlesbrough vs Southampton (87950).

Powerboat and Jet Sport World (4060).

5.00 Max Power (3641). 6.00 Sky Sports

Centre (8825), 6.30 What a Weekend (2405), 7.00 Football League Review (10080), 6.00 Sports Auction (49202). 9.30 What a Weekend (12009). 10.00 Sky Sports Centre (226370). 10.15 You're on Sky Sports (473979), 11.00 Football League Review (96047). 12.00 Sky Sports Centre (8676055), 12.15 You're on Sky Sports (6284158). 1.00 Football ague Review (87871). 2.00 Total Sport (12055), 2.30 Sports Centre (3054500). 2.45 Close.

SKY SPORTS 2 7.00 Aerobics - Oz Style (1163739). 7.30 Racing News (2618824), 9.00 Ford Golf USA (3403234). 11.00 European Tou Golf (2519399). **1.00** Basketball - Uniball Trophy Final Derby Storm vs Manchester Giants (8855221). 3.00 International Cricket West Indies v Australia (9087776). 5.00 The Snow Show (5051776). 5.30 International Cricket West Indies vs Australia (5000660). 10.00 Table Termis 5881414) #LOO Total Sport (3150196). International Bowls Australia vs England (8587516). 4.30 Sports Centre 36089968), 4.45 Close.

SKY SPORTS 3 12.00 Rugby League (26520221). 1.30 Badminton (25058405). **5.00** Footbell Review (27125825). **6.00** Table Tennis (19576738). 7.00 V-Max (27126554). 7.30 Isport (14053196). 8.00 International Bowls Australia vs England (33807689).

10.00 Shelfs Wonderful World of Golf Herbert vs Vari Donk (33886196). **11.00** The Golden Age of Racing A-Z of Motorsport (92383738). 11.30 Close. EUROSPORT

7.30 Equestrianism (82486). 8.30 Alpine Skiing (29221). 9.30 Biathlon (79202). 11.00 Rally (96912), 11.30 Speed Skating (69486), 12.30 Ski Jumping (36370), 1.30 Snooker: German Masters in Bingen (80467). 3.00 Cycling Tirreno - Adriatico (25347). 4.00 Biathion World Cup (10592). 5.00 Truck Recing (5009). 6.00 Adventure Raid Gauloises (6221). 6.30 Sled Dog (7573). 7.00 YOZ Mag - Youth Only Done (45775), 8.00 Trial (2195), 9.00 Boxing (34660), 10.00 Football: Euro-goals (83405), 11.30 Football: World Cup Legends (50028), 12.39 Close. UK GOLD

7.00 Crossroads (8676399). 7.30 Neighbours (6740467). 7.55 EastEnders 0736), 8.30 The Bill (3396115), 6.00 The Bill (3387467), 9.30 Pride and Preju-dice (5193370), 10.30 Phoda (3318979), 11.00 Dallas (4130047), 11.55 Neighbours (75313080), 12.25 EastEnders (2065134). 1.00 Julet Bravo (1637115). 2.00 Dallas (7963738). 2.55 The Bill (1975008). 3.25 The Bill (8707478), 3.55 EastEnders (3575283), 4.30 Phode (1011689), 5.00 All Creatures Great and Small (5738880). 6.00 Dynasty (1657979). 7.00 The Comedy Alternative: Ever Decreasing Circles (7894486). 7.40 The Cornedy Alternative Dad's Army (4262009), 8-20 The Comedy

Friends (9939318), 8.25 Babaloos (1328757). 8.30 Tiny Tales (3103738). 8.35 Tiny and Crew (4033776). 8.50 Practical Parenting (8560405). **6.00** Special Babies (8247844). **9.30** The

LIVING

Roseanne Show (7124028), 10.00 Tha Jerry Springer Show (9455592). 10.50 Maury Povich (3854370). 11.40 Brookside (2321552). 12.40 Through the Keyhole (21563689). 12.40 Rescue 911 (35004842). 1.10 Beyond Belief: Fact or Fiction (39859028). 1.40 Maury Povich (4051863). 2.30 Special Babies (8214757). 3.00 Living Room (6326115). 3.50 Michael Cole (4616931). 4.40 Through the Keyhole (59038467). 5.10 The Heat Is On (15737399). 5.40 Ready, Steady, Cook (8115389). **6.15** The Jerry Springer Show (1869405). **7.05** Rescue 911 (4610931). 7.35 Animal Rescue (4905318), 8.00 LA Law (2469979), 9.00 Film: Romance Week: Loving Evangeline (2439738). 11.00-12.00 Sex Files II (7496486).

9.00 Lust for Life (1956) (63209912). 11.30 The VIPs (1963) (60887365). 1.45 The Welking Stick (1970) (23438264). 3.30 Escape from East Berlin (1962) (B2485719), 5.00 Close. PARAMOUNT COMEDY CHANNEL

7.00 Jenny (2912) 7.30 Grace Under Fire (9831) 8.00 Ellen (1680) 8.30 Spin City (7467) 9.00 Drop the Dead Donkey (12950) 9.30 Whose Line is it Anyway? (43979) 10.00 Frasier (82370) 10.30 Cheers (44478), 11.00 Seinfeld (91467), 11.30 The Larry Senders Show (5215). 12.00 Late Night with David Letterman (91974), 1.00 Taxi (94500), 1.30 Frontine (1779), 2.00 Dr Katz (10697), 2.30 Tibs and Fibs (95332), 3.00 Nightstand (87264), 3.30-4.00 Abbott & Costello (19784).

## REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

BBC1 N'IRELAND As BBC1 LONDON & SE except: 6.30 Newsine 6.30 (883) 7.00 Schools Challenge (2270) 19.40 Animal Poice (107889) 10.45 A Question of Sport (17055) 11.45 Animal Poice (177467) 11.45 Harbour Lights (842467), 12.35 Film: The President's Analyst (308054), 245 Johns BBC News 94 (58894332).

BBC1 SCOTLAND
As BBC1 LONDON & SE except:
12.30 Luch is Famir (Mouse and Mole)
(2143456).12.35 Orain agus Rannan
(Song and Rhyme) (21433457).12.40
Padraig Post (Posiman Pat) (52362573).
6.00 News (283). 6.30 Reporting Scotland; Weather (863).

BECT WALES As ERC1 LONDON & SE excepts
8.30 Wales Today (363), 10.00 Labour
of Love (97889), 10.30 Panorama
(536047), 11.35 Animal Police (177467),
11.45 Harbour Lights (642467), 12.35
First The President's Analyst (308054),
2.35 Joins BBC News 24 (58694332).

As Cariton excepts 12.20 Angla News and Weather (7233738). 12.55

Shortland Street (9994283), 1.30 Home Shortland Street (9994283). £30 Home and Away (35607950). £35 The Jerry Springer Show. (3596514). 3.10 JTV News Headlines (4738467). 3.15 Anglia News and Weather (4738738). 3.00 Home and Away (9472912). 5.25 Take it On (8468824). 5.30 Anglia News Monday Extra (738). 6.00 Anglia News (979). 11.20 Anglia News and Weather (430554). 11.30 Fitz (463680). 12.25 Nethorwards Enothal Leanus Extra ationwide Football League Extra

Nationwide Football League Extra (4935326). 1.25 World Football (8248939). 2.00 Film: Rio Diablo (791516). 3.35 Trisha (2758603). 4.35 ITV Nightscreen (46457968). 5.00 Coro-nation Street (15516). CENTRAL

As Cariton except: 12.20 Central News and Weather (7233738). 12.55 Home and Away (4575592). 2.10 High Road (56486134). 5.30 Shortland Street (738). 5.00 Central News at Six (979). 11,20 Central News and Weather (490554), 4,30 Jobfinder (4581535). 5.20 Asian Eve (\$373622) HTV WALES

As Cariton except: 10.30 This Morning (44507028) 12.15 HTV News (4088370) 12.55 Shortland Street

(9994283). **1.30** Home and Away (35607950). **1.55** The Jerry Springer Show (3588514). **3.10** ITV News Headines (4739487). **3.15** HTV News (4738738). **5.30** House to House (738). **6.00** HTV News (979). **11.20** HTV News (430554). **11.30** Fitz (463830), **12.25** Football Legue Extra (4935326). **12.5** World Football (9248993). **2.00** Film: Rio Diablo (791516). **3.35** Trisha (2758603). **4.35** ITV Nightscreen (46457988). **5.00** Coronation SI (15516).

As HTV Wales except: 5.30 Gar-

As Cariton except: 10.30 This Moming (44507028). 12.15 Meridian Morring (44507020). 1235 Mendian News and Weather (4088370). 12.55 Shortland Street (9994283). 1.30 Home and Away (35607950). 1.55 The Jerry Springer Show (359654). 3.10 ITV News Headines (4789467). 3.15 Mendian News and Weather (47987201 E. De Headlines (4739467). 3.45 Meridian News and Weather (4738738). 5.00 Home and Away (5202). 5.26 Three Minutes (8466824). 5.30 Country Ways (738), 6.00 Meridian Tonight (979). 11.20 Meridian News and Weather (430554). 11.30 Prisoner Cell Block H

(463680). 12.25 Nationwide Football League Extra (4935326). 1.25 World Football (9248983). 2.00 Film: Rio Dia-bio (791516). 3.35 Trisha (2758603). 4.35 ITV Nightscreen (46457968). 5.00 Freescreen (15516).

WESTCOUNTRY
As Cariton except: 10.30 This
Morning (44507028). 12.15 Westcountry
News (4088370). 12.27 Illuminations
(724757). 12.55 Westcountry
Lunchtime Live (4575592). 3.40 ITV
News Headines (4739467). 3.45 Westcountry News (4738738). 5.30 Animal
SOS (738). 6.00 Westcountry Live (979).
11.20 Westcountry News (430554).
11.30 Fitz (483880). 12.25 Nationwide
Fronthell Lasque Extra (4835326). 1.25 WESTCOUNTRY Part Pitz (193389). 1223 Patronwide Football Lasgue Extra (4935326). 1.25 World Football (9248993). 2.00 Film: Rio Diablo (791616). 3.35 Trisha (2758603). 4.35 ITV Nightscreen (46457988). 5.00 Coronation SI (15516).

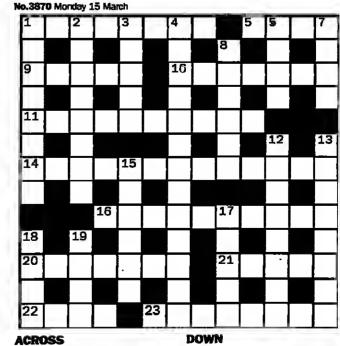
YORKSHIRE
As Carlton except: 10.30 Tris
Morning (44507028), 12.15 Calendar
News and Weather (4088370), 12.55
Home and Away (4575592), 2.10 Coronation Street (56486134), 5.30 Toright
(738), 6.00 Calendar (979), 11.20 Cal-

andar News and Weather (430554). 4.30 Jobfinder (53516).

TYNE TEES As Yorkshire except: 12.15 North East News and Weather (4088370), 5.30 North East Tonight (31592), 11.20 North East News and Weather (430554).

Ion/Schools (28274080), 12.00 Right to Repty (97059757), 12.30 Sesame Street (26877202), 1.00 Planed Plant (28877202). 1.00 Planed Plant (6782196). 1.30 Chennel Four at Chel-tenham (26876573). 2.00 Time Team (73905680). 3.00 Return to the Lost Gardens of Heligan (90135080). 4.30 Montel Williams (67162399). 5.30 Count-days (57189770). 6.00 Noveletion down (67186979), 6.00 Newyddion (93496912), 6.10 Heno (86985115), 7.00 Pobol y Cwm (90167689), 7.30 Newyddion (67163028), 8.00 Dudley dion (67163028). 8.00 Duclley (90143009). 8.30 Pwy di Pwy (90155844). 9.00 Taro New (68259196). 9.30 Sgorio (63560383). 10.35 Father Ted (35717405). 11.05 Cutting Edge (68839844). 12.05 Cheltonham - Festi-val of Dreams (30899332). 1.05-1.35 Channel Four at Cheltenham (67485177).

#### CONCISE CROSSWORD



Chewing on bit (8) Ages (4)

Respond (5) 10 Berkshire town (7) 11 Looking good to the camera

14 Unsophisticated rustic (7.6) 16 Police van (5.5) 20 Wind instrument (7)

22. Cook (4) 23 lo the open air (8)

1 'Shell (8) Means of showing quantity on Paved area (5) Educational establishment

21 Small hill (5)

(7,6)Norse god (4) Wise man (4)

Gaming house (6) 12 Taking a great interest? (S) 13 Hollowed-out design (8) 15 Fat used in candles etc (6) 17 Creator (5) 18 Long poem or film (4) 19 Pain (4)

Solution to last Saturday's Concise Crossword: ACROSS: 1 Press, 4 Ton (Preston), 7 Oral, 8 Prospect, 9 Mangelwurzel, 10 Adhere, 13 Nausea, 15 Businese suit, 19 Barracks, 20 Utah, 21 Dam, 22 Ladle, DOWN: 1 Parka, 2 Eclogue, 3 Sepal, 4 Topaz, 5 Nacelle, 6 Column, 11 Dab hand, 12 Eunice, 14 Unsound, 16 Scram, 17 Skal, 18 Inanc

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HANKS

TELEVISION REVIEW

**5.30 Ragionel News** (T) (863)

10

7.00 A Quastion of Sport, Gussis ere foofbeller Jason McAleer, relly driver Richard Burns, rugby leegue legend Ellery Henley, end long-dietence runner Paule Raddilfe (S) (T) (2270).

Z

7.30 Watchdog Naelthoheck. Angele Rippon looks et the use of magnets as e meens of ellavieting rhsumetlo pein (S) (T) (837).

Mrs Merton and Melcolm. Melcolm has a mystery liness – cue discussions between the local pharmacist end his mum over the state of his etools. Tremendous (S) (T) (5825).

9.30 01:0183 Jailbirds. Series thet shows what life is like for the inmates of New Helt prison in Yorkshire, e closed facility for nearly 400 womsn. See Docu-Soep of the Day, below (S) (T) (83270).

Penorema. Tonights programme looks et the widsspread use of parformence-enhancing drugs within the Olympic movement end accuses officiels of ignoring drug use by athletes (6) (7) (840554). Anime! Police. Fluffy docu-scap. Nell has to cope with the gross neglect of a heavily matted dog, while Stephania must put some cets to sleep (S) (T) (170554).

Harbour Lighta (R) (S) (T) (772912).

HIDING The President's Anelya
Flicker 1987 US). James Cohure steen is

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First Direct

is free?

DOCUMENTARY OF THE DAY

100 9.00 News; Regionel News; Weather (T) (784))

(7417028), 7.06 identiobles (11) (370205), 7.30 Shorks (5362641), 7.50 Blus Peter (R) (S) (7) (3470912), 8.20 Taz-Menie (S) (5068202), 8.40 Polike Dot Shorts (1016950), 8.50 Romueld the Reindeer (R) (S) (1012134), 8.00 Space Ark (S) (7834950), 8.10 Short Circuit: Life Processes and Living Things (S) (4368825), 9.30 Writing end Pictures (S) (8765831), 9.45 Story time (S) (8750486), 10.00 Telshubbles (S) (72931), 10.30 Words end Pictures (S) (875931), 10.30 Words end Pictures (S) (8295015), 10.00 Look and Read: The Legand of the Lost Keys (S) (T) (321980), 11.20 Zig Zeg (S) (T) (3188960), 11.40 Landmarks (S) (T) (6549841), 12.00 Lob Bank (S) (T) (4089009), 12.10 History Rie (S) (8251738), 12.30 Working Lunch (29778), 1.00 Romueld the Reindeer (R) (8835080), 1.10 The History Hour (S) (9998009), 2.10 Awash with Colour (S) (66459080), 2.40 News; Regional News; Weather (3203370), 2.45 Match of Their Day (S) (T) (4880844), 3.25 News; Regional News; Weather (3203370), 2.45 Match of Their Day (S) (T) (4880844), 3.25 Ready, Staedy, Cook (S) (T) (8174592), 4.35 Esther (S) (T) (5159573), 5.30 Whose House? (S) (912),

8.15 The Simpsons. Homer enrolle in a nuclear physics clase et Springfield University (R) (S) (T) (766912).

5.40 The Ran and Stimpy Show. Ran gate ennoyed when Stimpy suddanly becomes superstitione (R) (T) (839554).

7.00 Internel Affeire. Wittily entitled "Wetch Dogs", this letest tilm profiles the elewards who monitor the greyhound recing industry, the second lergest speciett eport in the country, so we're told (S) (T) (6912).

7.30 Rough Guide to the World. Looking et how soms young, middle-cless Japanese gifts take older lovers in order to pey for designer clothes (S) (T) (689).

6.00 Oleaetar. Asporting on the 1991 Severn Tunns! relicast, in which 185 pessengers were seriously injured bould it have been evoided? (S) (7680).

8.30 Food and Drink. Antony Worrall Thompson celebrates St Patrick's Day with en Irish siew. Paul and Jeerne Rankin cook for their local fire station's charity day. Which is nice of them, but possibly not greet television (5) (1) (3467).
9.00 Sirths, Merriagea and Deetha. Last in the mervellous four-pert drama series. Terry's argument over Pet's two young boys is resolved unexpectedly, while Molly tells Josh who his fether is (5) (1) (9757).

BBC2

MONDAY

5.00 Hit, Nifaa or Neybe. Pop videos assessed by Zoé Bell end her youth-friendly guseta (R) (S) (T) (130573).

t0.00 If I Ruled the World. Cive Anderson hoels the political quiz show – Fred MacAuley and Rebecca Front ere lonights guests (S) (T) (88931).

t0.30 Newsnight. With Kirsty "costly" Wark (T) (534889).

8.00 London Tonight. Regional news update for the capital and the South-East (T) (979).

a Grimfeye. Jed Mercurios highly entertaining rentise connedy drame series. Miss Titley brings back strigguished ex-pupil for e careers telk, but Mr Digby vs him as e love rival (S) (1) (91405).

11.00 ITV 11.20 Long (4938) (7233 Iden Tenfight (T) (430554), 11.30 Fttz (S) (T) 189). 12.30 Nationwide Footbell Leegue Extre 126). 1.30 World Footbell (R) (88500). Nightly News Weather (T) (561663).

2.00 [1] Rio Díabto (Rod Hardy 1993 US), Made-for-TV frontisr action dreme with Kenny Rogers (28061). Triehe (R) (S) (T) (10887). 4.30 ITV Nightscreen (53516). 5.30 ITV News (45516). To 6am.

5.00

V Evening News| Weether (T) (931).

7.00 Wish You Wera Hera...? Anthee Tumer chacks out the beeches of Tuscarry end Lynde Beilinghem end her two leds take e self-catering holiday in Menorce (S) (T) (2738).

7.30 Coronetion Straet. Nick end Leenne enjoy their secret - Leennes getting used to being pregnent, in other words (S) (T) (115).

8.00 Who Wanta to Ba e Millioneire? Chris Terrent with the letest batch of hopefuls (S) (T) (1486).

E.30 Cop Shop. Fly-on-the-well portrelt of the coppere who cell Gosport police station home (T) (3221).

9.00 Kavenagh QC. John Thew's Kevenegh defends a convicted ereonist accused of killing his girlfriend and becomes a fether figure to the young men — eiready the benefits of bumping News at Ten are paying off... (S) (T) (3958).

nnel Four et Cheltenham (543757).

t.40 Oispatches (R) (T) (2877993).
2.45 Powerhouse (T) (27784).
2.45 Right to Rsply (878956).
3.40 The Client (R) (S) (8570429).
4.00 Schools (T) (67780).
To Sem.

Carlton

VISION

DO GMTV (5753405). 9.26 Trishe (S) (T) (8985134). to.30 This Morning (T) (57543405). t2.20 Your Shout (7233738). t2.30 ITV Lunchtime News: Weether (T) (4567573). 12.85 London Todey (T) (4575582). 1.26 The Jerry Springer Show (S) (T) (4147488). 2.10 Home end Awey (S) (T) (56488134). 2.40 Wheel of Fortune (S) (T) (8267842). 3.10 ITV News Heedlinee (T) (5020456).

hildren's ITV: Mopatop's Shop (4742931), 3.30 (pper (R) (S) (9702844), 3.40 The Adventures of eptein Pugwash (S) (9782080), 3.85 Oggy and the ockroeches (S) (T) (5071283), 4.08 You'll Never sileve It (T) (6167202), 4.30 Pottergueste (S) (T) (486),

Home end Away. Vinnie's secret is reveeled (S) (T) (5202)

London Bridga. Rob and Noel compete for the seme job, so it eeys here (S) (738).

9.00 IN: OIM Gutting Edge. A variety of perspectives on the gun. Bhooling victims tell their stories, others explain the extraction of a "perfect machine", end e merketing officer from an srms firm defends his questionable profession. See Documentary of the Day, below (T) (6863).

17.40 Ch

10.00 IIIM The Outsiders (Frencis Ford Coppole 1983 US). Shot back-to-back with the arty, bisck-and-white Rumble Fish, SE Hinton once again provides the raw metsriel for this misguided drems about two rival gangs in 1960s Tulse. An impressive Bist-pack cest — Estevez, Sweyze, Dillon, Lowe, Macchio et el — shuggle boyfully with the director's well-meening grandlosity (972221).

The Calender (Arthur Crebtree 1948 UK), Topicel drame of a recehorss owner who is pereueded to pull his horse during a rece – lits e little too plummy end wooden to make it worth steying up for, though (9622245).

Channel

hannel 5

THE MONDAY REVIEW
The Independent 15 March 1999

7.00 The Big Breakfast (12301). 9.00 Schools (T) (831950). t1.30 Here's One I Mede Earlisr (R) (S) (T) (1844). t2.00 Ssseme Strest (T) (72370). 12.30 Bewitched (R) (S) (T) (14844). 1.00 Charnel Four et Chaltanham (S) (T) (7853134). t.38 The Three Stoogee (R) (74521216).

t.35 IIII The Man Who Loved Redheade (Herold French 1954 UK). British comedy by Terence Retrigen about e ginger-obsessive. Moira Shearer pleys ell ths verious cerror-topped conquests of our eponymous reminiscing hero (1) (75204316).

Collactoral Lot (T) (739). 4.00 Fifteen to One (S) (T) (844). 4.30 Countdown (S) (T) (3036950). 4.55 Montel Willems (T) (5144641).

5.00 5 News and Sport (1604450). 7.00 WideWorld (R) (S) (T) (8927863). 7.30 Milkshekel (S) (245969), 7.35 Wimzle's House (R) (4436318). 5.00 Hevskezoo (R) (S) (2644641). 5.30 Dappledown Farm (R) (S) (2643912). 9.00 Was it Good for You? (2466739). 9.26 Russell Grent's Postcards (4203860). 9.30 The Opreh Winfrey Show (3736919). 10.20 Sunset Beach (S) (T) (3490202). 11.40 Leeza (S) (8460711). 12.00 5 News at Noon (S) (T) (2654028). 12.30 Familiy Affairs (S) (T) (1025950). 1.00 The Bold end the Beautiful (S) (T) (8226134). 1.30 The Roseanne Show (S) (1024221). 2.00 100 Per Cent Gold (S) (9903950). 2.30 Good Alternoon (S) (1518738). 3.30 Interest of Your Steven Spielberg (Kete Capshew) in e thriller about e former CIA agent who is sprung from domesticity for e last mission to Cuba. Not worth two hours of your time – clean the windows or go for e walk (T) (3832455).

5.30 Pet Reacua. Two poodles ere found in e dustbin shed in Portsmouth, and et RSPCA Woodside, two dogs with "spscial needs" are heving problems finding a new home. Mark Evans, meanwhile, has soms bad newe for Colonel Sanders as he investigates a stranga disease affecting chickens' legs (7) (680). 5.30 100 Per Cent. Relentless cuiz – the only redeeming feature of which is its lack of e host (B) (2257318). **5.20 & News** (93976459), **5.25** Russell Grent's Postcarde (14993270).

5.00 Rossenine. When her father dies, Rossenne is left to deal with the smotlonel fallout (R) (S) (T) (221). 8.00 8 Naws, including First on Five. National and international news with Kirsly Young (S) (T) (224783).

8.30 Hollyoeks. Chester youth. There is a tense etmosphere at the Dog – something to do with Sol and Cline, by ell accounts (1) (673).

6.30 Family Affaire. Pete mekee the Matthews en offer but Dave knows Pete is desperate (S) (↑) (2238283).

7.00 Knight Rider. For those who find Anthee Turner Intellsctuelly intimideting (R) (8981738).

7.00 Chennel 4 News. including sport end weether (1) (664282).

8.00 To the Bnde of the Eerth. "Bearch for the Sons of Abreham". Anthropologist Tudor Parfitt visits the Lembe tribe in Africa, which claims to be descended from a Jawish bloodline dating back thousands of yeers. Our man etempts to establish whisther they are indeed one of the "lost tribes" of largel (1) (5388). 8.30 8.00 Instant Gardens. Another look at the minimelist gerden in Burbage (S) (T) (9880456). 7.30 Natural Passions. Documentery that Joins bush patrols "on the job" in Africa end the USA (S) (T) (2234467).

Animal Sit. There's e distressing call-out for a vet who tries to help e neglected dog – If that doesn't tempt you, there's elso en emergency Cassarsen on e cow u, there's elec er (T) (9802221).

9.00 IIIM An Occasional Hall (Salome Braziner 1998 US). Tom Berenger does his best in this frankly poor thriller eboul a college professor who reverts to his former cereer as e cop when the widow of e fellow tutor is accused of his husband's murder. TV movie, in case you hearit guessed from the title (S) (T) (81002405).

10.50 Or Fox's Chart Update (S) (8256467).

10.55 V. Sci-fi drame series. Resistance fighters battle to prevent the ellens from sebotaging the Earth's water supply – the invaders ere cunningly disguised as Thames Water engineers end were lest seen in the vicinity of e flooded underpees on the North Circular for for the same of the contraction.

Live and Dangerous (S) (899042), 1.25 Live end Dengerous (continued) (S) (6188500), 4.40 Prisoner: Cell Block H (7938790), 5.30 100 Per Cent (R) (S) (6548697). To 6am.

TELEVISION GUIDE IIY PETER CONCHIR



ther what the

DOCU-SOAP OF THE DAY

Leeving aside the resumshly it is the dern irony that makes with it—this latest rulse" Terrill is an romen's prison in West wing, not least when you acerbeding the stress falt men are filmed in the and for one new recruit the



FILM OF THE DAY

THE PRESIDENT'S ANALYST (1205am BBC1) Jemes. Cohurn (right) was memorably described by film writer David Thomson as "giving the impression of an smisble monkey", and his charming, deadpan persona serves him well in this late-Sixties socio-political settre from writer/director Theodore J Flicker. It is, of course, deted, but that hardly matters when it is still remarkably funny end original. Coburn plays the eponymous shrink who is marked for assessination by the FBI, who fear he knows teo much, Foreign egents draw the same conclusion and try to keep him alive, resulting in a snappy spoof of the FBI, liberalism end American politics.

